

ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF PAXTON

Year Ending June 30, 2017



Printed June 2018



WITH GRATEFUL THANKS FOR PAST SERVICE

Doris Huard
Council on Aging

George Howatt
Council on Aging

Louise Howatt
Council on Aging

Susan Burdett
Light Department

Barbara Renzoni
School Committee

Daniel Gehnrich
Conservation Comm.

Chuck Putney
Recreation

Susan Corcoran
Historical Comm.

Marisa Ayvazian
Conservation Comm.

Robert Callahan
Board of Appeals

Warren Bock
Planning Board

Table of Contents

TOWN OFFICERS	Page 4
REPORTS OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS AND BOARDS	Page 8
TOWN MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS	Page 31
TOWN CLERK’S REPORT	Page 58
TOWN ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT	Page 60
BOARD OF ASSESSORS REPORT	Page 70
TOWN COLLECTOR’S REPORT	Page 75
TOWN PAYROLL REPORT	Page 83
COMMUNITY INFORMATION	Page 89



TOWN OFFICERS

May 2016 to May 2017

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen

Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman

2019

Julia Pingitore, Vice Chair	2018
John F. Malone, Clerk	2017
Moderator	
Roger Brunelle	2017
Constables	
Paul F. Ruane	2017
B. Peter Warren Jr.	2017
Tree Warden	
James Robert	2017
Wachusett Regional School District Committee	
Harriet Fradellos	2018
Barbara Renzoni	2019
Municipal Light Board	
John Ahearn	2017
Emerson Wheeler III	2019
John P. Crowley, Chair	2018
Assessors	
Doris E. Huard	2017
Joanne Savignac	2018
Kateri Clute	2019
Water Board	
John F. Malone, Chair	2017
David J. Trulson	2018
Rodney S. Jenkins	2019
Board of Health	
Thomas B. Carroll	2018
Judy A. Hatstat	2017
David Parent, Chair	2019
Planning Board	
Neil Bagdis, Chair	2017
Richards Doughty	2021
Jeffrey Kent	2020
Henry Stidsen	2019
Rob Jacobson	2018
Library Trustees	
Nick Powlovich	2017
Caroline Grinstead	2019
Patricia Dawson	2017
Bill Jones	2017
Jenn DeFronzo	2018
Karen Putney	2019
Recreation Commission	
Betsy Howard	2017
Jeff Cormier	2017
Roberley Tasca	2019
Matthew Noponen, Chairman	2018
Heather Larson	2018

Cemetery Commission	
Patricia Belsito	2018
Judi Mancini	2017
Christopher Stone	2019

Bay Path Regional Voc. Representatives	
Robert Wilby	2017
Peter Schur	2019

APPOINTED BY SELECTBOARD

Town Administrator	
Carol Riches	2018
Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen	
Donna Graf-Parsons	2017
Town Services Coordinator	
Sheryl Lombardi	2017
Town Accountant	
Donna Couture	2017
Town Collector/Treasurer	
Deirdre L. Malone	2017
Town Clerk	
Susan Stone	2017
Superintendent DPW	
Michael Putnam	2017
Veteran's Agent	
Jeffrey Kent	2017
Veteran's Grave Officer	
Jeffrey Kent	2017
Inspector of Wires	
Dennis Benoit	2017
John Slabich, Asst	2017
Building Commissioner	
Richard Trifero	2017
Richard Travers, Assistant	2017
Local Superintendent of Insect Pest Control	
James Robert	2017
Board of Appeals	
Forrest Smith	2020
Kirk Huehls	2017
Paul Robinson	2019
Richard Grensavitch	2018
Roberta Brien	2019
Caitlin Cournoyer	2020
Joseph Roche	2019

Board of Registrars		Cable & Communication Committee	
Mary Ann Paquette	2017	Nick Powlovich, Chair	2017
Jeremy Richards	2019	Carol Riches	2017
Paula Mathieu	2018	Scott Wilson	2017
Town Counsel			
Peter J. Dawson, Esquire	2017	Agents for License Commission	
Sexual Harassment Officers		Donna Graf-Parsons	2017
Carol Riches	2017		
Measurer of Wood, Bark, Field Drivers & Fence Viewers		Central Mass Regional Planning	
Larry Hammerberg	2017	Christian S. Baehrecke	2017
Care of Clock			
Bruce Cheney	2017	Personnel Advisory Board	
		Heather Courtney	2017
		Paul Sullivan	2017
		Roland Card	2017
Hazardous Waste Coordinator			
Jay Conte, Fire Chief	2017	Council on Aging	
Emergency Management Director		Barbara Braley	2017
Michael Pingitore	2017	Robert Callahan	2017
		Gino Gangai	2019
Fire Chief & Forest Fire Warden		Alice Crowley	2017
Jay Conte	2017	Curtis Hammer	2018
Police Department Chief		Jean Wilde	2019
Robert Desrosiers	2017	Joan Bedard	2018
		James Putnam	2018
Full Time Officers		Natalie Siemen	2019
Kenneth Johnson, Patrolman	2017	Robert Lamotte, Associate	
David Keller, Patrolman	2017	June Herron, Associate	
William F. Lang, Sergeant	2017	Paul Bergin, Associate	
Mark S. Savasta, Sergeant	2017	Mark Ahearn, Associate	
Jason Silvestri, Detective	2017		
Forrest Thorpe	2017	Historical Commission	
Joseph Coggans	2017	DonMarie Desrosiers	2017
Matthew Morin	2017	Larry Spongberg	2019
		Anita Fenton	2019
Conservation Commission		Pamela Hair	2018
Michael Voorhis	2019	Donna MacLean	2017
Christopher Keenan, Chair	2019	Barbara Beall	2018
James Robert	2017		
Zachary Ferguson	2019	Sale of Town Owned Land	
Holly Robert, Associate	2019	Carol Riches	2017
Tim Lauring	2018	Michael Putnam	2017
		Richard Trifero	2017
		Deirdre Malone	2017
		Kathleen Stanley, Ex Officio	2017
		Marisa Ayzian	2017
Insurance Advisory Committee			
Deirdre Malone	2017	Historic District Commission	
Travis Thibault	2017	Donna MacLean	2017
Donna Graf-Parsons	2017	Jay Gallant	2017
Eva Ryan	2017	Paul Robinson	2017
Nancy Wilby	2017		
Deborah Bailey	2017	Cultural Council	
Tara Rondeau	2017	Donna Graf-Parsons	2018

Daniel Gehnrich	2019	Roberta Brien	2017
Anita Fenton	2022		
Howard McGinn	2017	Town Building Needs Committee	
Sara Root-Simone	2021	Jay Gallant	2017
Christie Barnes	2020	Paul Robinson	2017
		James Stone	2017
Anna Maria Scholarship Committee			
Kerrie Flynn-Orciuch	2017	Liaison to State Ethics Commission	
Carol Riches	2017	Carol Riches	2017
John Malone	2017		
		Scenic Byway Committee	
Capital Improvement Committee		Anita Fenton	2017
Carol Riches	2019	Paul Robinson	2017
Forrest Smith	2018		
Jeffrey Kent	2017		
Kateri Clute	2018	APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR	
Mark Love	2018	Finance Board	
James McGrath	2019	Jamie Contonio	2019
		Jennifer Lennon	2019
Election Officers		Mark Love	2018
Janice Carlson	2017	James Lang	2018
Janet Chapman	2017	Richard Fenton, Chair	2017
Kathryn Kingsbury	2017	June Herron	2017
Nancy Delle	2017	Scott Runstrom	2019
Gino Gangai	2017	Kevin Mentzer	2018
Michelle Nelsen	2017	Tim Linton	2018
Annette McKiernan	2017		
Sandra Vaudo	2017	APPOINTED BY BOARD OF HEALTH	
Paula Gangai	2017	Plumbing Inspector	
Melinda Johnson	2017	Dennis Harney	2017
Jacqueline LaFlash	2017	John P. Dolen, Assistant	2017
Jane McTigue	2017		
Debra Henderson	2017	Sanitary Inspector	
Marlo Richard	2017	Wayne Curran	2017
Master Plan Implementation Committee		Burial Agent	
Joanne Savignac	2017	Ronald Johnson	2017
Robert Bostwick	2017		
Bob Hayes	2017	Animal Inspector	
Kevin Quinn	2017	Jean Parent	2017
Paul Mathieu	2017		
Jay Gallant	2017	Animal Control Officer	
Scott Siemen	2017	B. Peter Warren Jr.	2017
Paul Robinson	2017		
Carol Riches, Ex Officio	2017	Rubbish/Recycling Collection	
		Republic Trash Removal	2017
Town Hall Renovation Committee			
Richard Fenton	2017		
Jay Gallant	2017		
Paul Robinson	2017		
James Stone	2017		



*REPORTS OF ELECTED AND
APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS AND
BOARDS*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

Fiscal year 2017 offered a medley of topics which came before the Select Board for decision-making and resolution efforts. The budgetary conflicts which have plagued recent years proved less dramatic this year, but the attention of the Board was instead required in several other areas.

The year began with cooperative compromise in resolving the FY17 budget. The Wachusett Regional School District budget had been defeated at the Annual Town Meeting in late FY16, and as it was also defeated by another member town, the school committee was required to re-evaluate the figures. A new WRSD budget was proposed which reduced Paxton's assessment, bridging enough of the budget gap that the Town was able to meet the request by making small adjustments, and without requesting an override. The budget was approved at the Special Town Meeting in July of 2016.

The accord with which the fiscal year began, however; was soon stunted by a very dry summer which plunged the entire region into worsening drought conditions as the season marched on. By September, Paxton and surrounding areas were faced with a Stage Three Drought Emergency, and all outdoor water use was banned. This drought status persisted and although upgraded, was not completely lifted until May of 2017.

Additionally, despite our ability to balance the budget earlier in the year, funds were still quite tight in town. Our annual financial audit provided feedback that our stabilization account should contain funds equal to 15% of the annual budget. Given our budget of approximately \$11 million, this amounts to \$1,650,000 which should be carried in stabilization funds. We will continue to look for ways to add to this account. The newly designated fund for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) will require full funding by 2040 according to current law. In addition to these concerns, the town was faced with a drastic hike in health insurance of 15.9% this year, with underwriting citing an aging labor force and increased pharmacy demand as the predominant factors. Cost saving methods were considered and an insurance opt out program was developed. New town employees will also now be started at a higher cost sharing percentage to help minimize the impact of this premium increase. The Wachusett Regional School District was also affected by a large health insurance increase at approximately 20%, factoring into their budget for the coming year.

Moreover, The WRSD requested a capital expenditure to implement Wi-Fi at the Paxton Center School. Although the request was made fairly late in the budget season, Town Administrator Carol Riches was able to determine that unexpended funds from the PCS Greenworks Project were available and sufficient to complete the project, so the item was placed on the Town Warrant for approval. On a similar note, the concept of regionalization for Information Technology services was explored in order to provide town offices with continuity of IT service in order to develop and implement a plan to improve platforms and security. This led to the eventual hire of Michael Savasta to provide these services until regionalization was possible. A \$13,000 community compact grant was also obtained by Carol Riches, which will serve to offset the cost of the improvements necessary in this area.

The condition of the John Bauer Senior Center was again brought to the forefront with some concerns raised by a group of seniors. Activity was spurred as a result, and repairs were made to correct outside drainage and improve heat. Many of the areas on the main floor received painting

and other updates thanks to friends of the COA, drastically improving the aesthetics of these areas. It is important to recognize that this building is utilized by many different groups in town, not just the seniors. We ask that all groups leave the building in as good or better condition than they found it.

The spirit of creative solutions continued as resolution was found on an issue with which the Select Board had been involved for some time over the last two fiscal years. The lease of Paxton Center School to the Wachusett Regional School District had expired without an automatic renewal after 20 years. This expiration occurred district-wide and was the subject of much discussion by the member towns, recognizing the opportunity to renegotiate the terms of each lease. After several months of communications between the member towns and the school district, one predominant issue remained unresolved: the district's reimbursement to the member towns for town-conducted maintenance of the properties, such as snow plowing, was handled inequitably across the district. It had come to the attention of the Select Board that some towns were receiving a sum of money from the district for maintenance, and other towns, like Paxton, were not receiving any funds. With the new lease, member towns sought to ensure fair and equitable handling of this issue throughout the district. Several different ideas were circulated, but none were accepted by all towns. Finally, this year, a solution was proposed by the district which presented a flat figure to each member town based on the size of the parking lot at each school, and with an additional amount included for septic maintenance, if applicable. This was accepted by the Select Board, and now results in approximately \$25,000 in additional revenue to the town on an annual basis.

Other items of interest for this year included that the WRTA bus route through Paxton did not see significant ridership, with buses often traveling empty. The route was cancelled effective in May. Unfortunately, the town is still required to pay an annual assessment to the WRTA, as was required prior commencement to the bus route. Installation of smart water meters in homes began, which will provide greater accuracy with water metering, as well as assisting with leak detection. This improvement should result in cost savings for many consumers as well as more consistent revenue to the Water Department.

On another positive note, the Paxton Police Department put together a Women's Tactical training which took place on several nights at Paxton Center School. The program quickly became popular, drawing interest from women both within the town and from surrounding areas. Each participant was trained in self-defense tactics as well as in the use of pepper spray and received their own pepper spray to take home with them. The program received rave reviews, and I took the opportunity to participate in it myself. Also, this year, the collaborative partnership for police and security between Anna Maria College and the Town was reviewed and renewed. In this effort, the Town administers and staffs the AMC Campus Security in exchange for funding which covers additional officers and assistance with periodic replacement of cruisers, among other things, greatly augmenting our available police force.

The Annual Town Meeting took place in May as scheduled. At this meeting, several items were addressed in addition to the budget. A warrant article for a quarterly tax payment schedule was passed in an effort to create a steadier cash flow and mirror the quarterly assessment payments from the WRSD, thereby reducing the need for short term lending. The Wetlands Bylaw developed by the Conservation Commission passed, along with a temporary moratorium on marijuana retailers, as well as a bylaw allowing for drive-throughs upon approval of a special permit. Exterior repairs to the town hall were approved in addition to Wi-Fi for PCS. The replacement of windows in the senior center and the design of a new DPW facility passed at

town meeting, but each failed at the polls. A meals tax was turned down by voters at the meeting.

In summary, we have been able to find resourceful ways to close budgetary gaps for this year, as well as fund some small improvements. While it is anticipated that we will continue to see difficulty with the budget, the compromises achieved this year leave me with a positive impression that the tide on this issue may be beginning to turn. We will still need to focus future efforts on improving revenue and building our stabilization accounts, but we continue to be a strong community, and we are at our strongest while we work together on these issues. I look forward to continuing to serve the town on the Select Board in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julia N. Pingitore
Chairwoman, Board of Selectmen

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR **ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17**

I would like to begin by once again expressing my sincere appreciation to all the dedicated department managers, Town employees, elected officials and numerous volunteers who serve on the many boards, commissions and committees for all their hard work and commitment. Paxton would not be the Town it is without the involvement of these people. I would like to especially thank the Board of Selectmen for their continued leadership of the Town.

The Town had another busy year including the following in fiscal 2017:

- ❖ The Town hired for the first time a part-time IT Technician; this will provide the consistent support that employees have lacked over the years.
- ❖ The Town was awarded a MIIA grant in December of \$6,844 to purchase dash and body cameras for the Police Department.
- ❖ The new public information law came into effect in January 2017, the Town Administrator, Town Clerk and Police Administrative Assistant were appointed as Record Access Officers for the Town.
- ❖ The Town Hall staff hosted for the 6th consecutive year a visit from the Paxton Center School 3rd grade class. Employees gave an insight into the fundamentals of their department and Anita and Richard Fenton provided the history.
- ❖ In February, the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan was accepted by the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA. The plan will not need updating for five years.
- ❖ In May the Town received a Community Compact grant of \$13,000 to replace the server and make updates.
- ❖ The Town voted at the Annual Town Meeting to change from semi-annual real estate tax billing to quarterly. This will aid the Town's cash flow and help residents' budget four smaller payments.

- ❖ The negotiations for the first contract with the full time firefighters continued throughout fiscal 2017. The three year contract was finally ratified on July 24, 2017
- ❖ The Police Dispatchers filed a petition to unionize and Teamsters Local 170 were voluntarily recognized by the Board of Selectmen.
- ❖ No new borrowing went forward at the Annual Town Meeting. Two Capital Debt Exclusions passed for the painting of the Town Hall and a new cruiser. Capital Debt Exclusions only raise the tax levy for one year.
- ❖ The Town voted to raise and appropriate from the Road Improvement Stabilization Fund of \$102,500.
- ❖ The Town terminated the WRTA service to and from Union Station in May; this service was not been fully utilized.
- ❖ To round off the year we held our sixth Paxton Days on the Common. Everyone who attended appeared to enjoy the music, vendors and food.

In closing I would like to once again thank all Department Managers, Town Hall employees and Town employees for their continued hard work and support. I would also like to give a special thanks to Donna Graf Parsons, Executive Assistant for all the valuable help she provides.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

BOARD OF HEALTH **ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17**

The following is a breakdown of the Board of Health's activities for fiscal year 2016:
Inspections by Sanitary Inspector:

Septic Inspections:	47
Soil Percolation Tests:	20
Septic Plan Reviews	38
Food Code Inspections	12
Semi Public Pool Inspections	6
Summer Camp Inspections	2
Housing Inspections	21
Complaints	4
Septic Construction Permits	28
Well Permits	2

FINANCE COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

The fiscal year 2018 budget was developed under the usual fiscal constraints. The year began with a free cash amount of \$395,384. Once again, the free cash was entirely utilized to help balance the budget. The debt service decreased over 3%. The County Retirement account increased 26.7%, for almost \$87,000, and Town Employee Insurance increased 21%, or approximately \$115,000. It is once again to be noted that no addition was made to the Other Post-Employment Benefits account which presently stands at \$0.00. At some point in time, Paxton will have to begin funding this account regardless of how difficult it may be. Similarly, no additions were made to the Capital Depreciation Fund or the Stabilization Fund. However, unlike the previous year, a cost-of-living adjustment for non-contractual employees was awarded at a value of 3% for a total of \$41,000. Several budgets were consolidated for accounting reasons. The Treasurer and Collector budgets were combined because they are both expended by only one department. Budgets for the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals were combined with that of the Town Service Coordinator (TSC) who manages those two accounts.

Upon considering individual budgets, it is noted that of the 54 budgets reviewed, 23 were funded at last year's level (absent Cost-of-Living) while 9 were decreased. The DPW budget experienced an increase of 18% primarily a result of an increased compensation required to help maintain the positions as competitive. The budgets for Fire and Emergency Medical were influenced by unionization. The budget for Municipal Information Services includes a new server. The projected increase in this budget was significantly reduced as a result of the receipt of a \$15,000 grant. The necessity of replacing the furnace in the Town Hall is reflected in a 48% increase in the Town Building budget.

Budgets for education are responsible for almost 50% of the town's expenditures. The total Bay Path assessment for FY2018 has been reduced 12% from the previous year, a result of fewer students attending this vocational school. Early in the year, the WRSD School Committee approved a budget that resulted in a 10% increase in the total assessment to Paxton from FY2017. It was determined that support for the WRSD assessment contingent upon a Proposition 2½ override of \$190,092 was required to meet our obligation to submit a balanced budget to the residents attending the Annual Town Meeting. With the failure of the override at the polls and a similar rejection of the WRSD budget by Rutland, the school committee presented to Paxton a reduced total assessment of \$5,998,794, an increase of 2.67% from the previous year. It was felt that another override vote to cover the remaining municipal deficit was not warranted. An important addition to the education budget came as a result of School Choice. One Paxton student chose to attend the Norfolk County Agricultural High School. As a result, the tuition (\$22,149) and transportation (\$27,000) for this year attendance has been billed to Paxton.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee,
Richard A. Fenton, Chairman

PAXTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

The men and women of the Paxton Fire Department in Fiscal Year 2017 have continued to perform above and beyond the call of duty for the residents of the Town of Paxton. The Department has seen a steady rise in the number of calls for service over the last several fiscal years, a trend that appears to be nationwide. The Paxton Fire Department responds to a number

of calls for service and as the rapid change in technologies prove ever challenging, we as a department have adapted to become more of an “All Hazards” Department rather than solely Fire and EMS. As in years past we have responded to numerous fires, motor vehicle accidents, EMS calls, Hazardous Materials Incidents and other emergencies. Morale remains high among the ranks within the department. Each member is willing and able to serve in a moment’s notice, and with strong leadership and dedication by the core of officers the department has, we will continue to respond with professionalism and compassion. Recruitment has been tough in recent years with a lot of people having trouble to find the time to dedicate to the rigorous and rewarding initial training in order to become a certified firefighter. However, we still had six recruits successfully attend and complete the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow and become Certified Firefighters in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In October of this past year we responded to a structure fire in a group home on the south end of town. Fortunately, no one who resided there, nor any Paxton Firefighters were injured. This particular fire demonstrated the effectiveness of properly working smoke detectors in that early detection and evacuation resulted in no loss of life and no injuries. Please remember to check and change the batteries in your smoke detectors twice a year. Also this past year we held our annual open house, this one by far was a huge success with easily over 150 people coming in to see what goes on, learn about fire prevention, and meet the firefighters. We do this annually every Fire Prevention week in October and look forward to seeing the residents there. The Paxton Fire Department is prepared and ready to face another year serving the Town of Paxton, but to be able to do this I want to thank the men and women of this department that make it happen! Most importantly the families of these men and women who have to endure their loved ones leaving in a moment’s notice in the middle of the night, weekends, holidays and special occasions to answer the calls for help from their neighbors and other citizens of Paxton.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay J. Conte EMT, Fire Chief

RICHARDS MEMORIAL LIBRARY **ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17**

It’s been another busy year at the library. Circulation remains high with over 30,000 materials circulated throughout the year. Since the library became part of the CWMars network., patrons may request a book from any library within Central or Western Massachusetts with their library card and the click of a button. Now, with the Commonwealth catalog, borrowing privileges are extended throughout all of the state.

Attendance at the library has remained steady. Kim Cooke, children’s librarian, has a weekly story hour on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 that has drawn a steady stream of 15 – 25 preschoolers to hear a story and execute a craft.

Other programs at the library have drawn parents and children in for a bit of fun. Always popular are the Easter Bunny egg hunt, Santa Claus and our annual bike rodeo. We are pleased that the Paxton Police continue to assist us with the rodeo, giving safety tips to the kids, while our Friends group provides free helmets to all attendees.

Our annual summer reading program was a great success with many children reading for a chance to win one of many prizes donated by area businesses or our Friends group. As part of summer reading, the library also had performer, Jungle Jim, a beach party, and for the older kids, a spa night where they got massages and learned about essential oils. The summer finished up with indoor mini golf throughout the entire library.

Perhaps our biggest program of the year was for the solar eclipse on August 21st. John Root and other members of the Aldrich Astronomical Society provided solar glasses and specially lensed telescopes for spectacular viewing. We were packed!

For adults, we had Stephen Collins in to portray Walt Whitman. This was a very enlightening performance. Dr Alan Hughes also did a meditation for total wellness program. We also had a repeat of a previously popular program of Iris Folding.

The library has also been in the midst of several capital improvements. We recently had LED lighting installed throughout. We are also in the process of painting the library and will be installing new carpet in 2018. In the spring, we will be painting all of our outside trim. These projects have been paid for with library funds and we are pleased to say with Paxton contractors.

The library will continue to present programs of interest for 2018. We hope patrons will check in regularly to our web site, RMLPAXTON.ORG for updates on programs or will join our FACEBOOK page to be kept informed of anything going on

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Bailey

TOWN OF PAXTON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ANNUAL REPORT FY17

The DPW dealt with 80 inches of snow from November 2016 to April 1, 2017. There were numerous small events and fluctuating temperatures resulting in a lot of refreezing of roadways but as a whole it was a typical Paxton winter.

With the help of new funding for the Town Road Program to supplement Chapter 90, we were able to do reclamation and new pavement on two sections of Marshall St, Rollingridge Ln, and a portion of Richards Ave. Also, as part of pavement preservation we did crack sealing on Laurel St.

The Holden Rd. project continues to move forward. It is approaching 100% design which should mean groundbreaking as early as next year.

The Town received a \$40,000. Mass Works grant to reline two failed road culverts on Reservoir Rd. (Rt.56). This was a tremendous savings for the dept.

This past year we brought forward a feasibility study to the Capital Improvement Committee to pursue building a new DPW facility. We were looking for a Phase I site plan to begin the process of a new facility which would replace our undersized and outdated DPW barn. This was put on the warrant at May Town Meeting in which it passed yet, was defeated later on at the ballot. We will continue to push this project as we are in dire need of a new facility. Road maintenance continues as well as the upkeep of town cemeteries, fields and facilities.

The DPW employees should be recognized for the hard work and dedication in providing such an important public service to the Town of Paxton and its residents.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Putnam, Superintendent

REPORT OF THE WATER COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT FY17

The Paxton Water Department had a challenging year for FY17 with the drought that took place throughout the state for a good portion of the year. When it comes to putting water use restrictions into place there are many factors that come into play. It requires more leak detection, monitoring, and reporting to the Department of Environmental Protection Agency, as well as limiting water usage throughout the town.

As a result of limiting the Town's water usage, we could not do a fall flushing of the system thus impacting water quality. The department was able to do limited controlled flushing in order to make certain that safe quality water was provided throughout the entire system. Another challenge to limiting water usage was informing the water consumers and getting our customers to conserve water. On behalf of the Paxton Water Department and its Board of Commissioners, we would like to thank all of our customers for their part in water conservation. The Water users went above and beyond in the attempt to conserve water, and it was greatly appreciated.

Through the efforts of leak detection, the department was able to find several water leaks throughout the system.

Repaired several Water main breaks throughout the system.

The Board of Water Commissioners met on a monthly basis throughout the year to discuss all aspects of the Water Department and to make decisions on behalf of the town's residents that are supplied with public drinking water.

Below are some of the activities that were discussed at the Water Board meetings:

- Discussions on the drought and water restrictions.
- The need to upgrade the meter system throughout the town that was last updated between 1998-2001.
- Increasing the water rates in order to fund the meter project, and to hire an additional water operator.
- The purchase and replacement of fire hydrants throughout the system.
- Repairing water mains and services throughout the system either through leak detection or emergency situations.
- A new water main that was installed at Anna Maria Collage in order to provide a sprinkler system to be installed in one of the dormitories.
- The Consumer Confidence Report was posted online once again in order to make it easily accessible to the department's consumers. The report was also posted throughout town at public buildings and copies were left at some of those locations for consumers to take.
- The Code Red system was utilized several times in order to inform consumers of emergency situations.
- Responded to customers with unusually high water usage by giving them the opportunity to be heard at a board meeting.

- As of July 1, 2017 Michael Putnam, Highway/Water Superintendent stepped down from managing the Water Department and Travis Thibault took over as Water Superintendent.

The Water Commissioners would like to thank Michael Putnam, Water Superintendent and Travis Thibault, Working Foreman for their hard work and dedication to provide residents of Paxton with clean and safe drinking water.

Respectfully Submitted,
John F. Malone, Chairman
David Trulson, Vice Chairman
Rodney Jenkins, Clerk

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL LIGHT COMMISSION
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017

Since 1903, when the Paxton Municipal Light Department was formed, residents have enjoyed the benefits of safe, reliable, and low-cost public power. Our success is measured by low rates, fast response times, and almost no power outages during the major storms of 2017 that put much of the Investor Owned Utilities in the dark. Under the Paxton Light Board's oversight, electric rates have not been increased in 10 years.

In 2017, the Paxton Light Department was successful in obtaining a \$40,934 streetlight grant from the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to replace the Town's old high-pressure sodium (HPS) streetlights with new LED streetlights. These changes represent an annual reduction in energy usage and a financial savings to the Town. The Light Department was also awarded a \$5,000 DOER grant for a feasibility study aimed at improving our Power Supply. Paxton Light continued to contribute direct labor and materials to other Town Departments to assist them on their projects at no cost to the Town.

Energy efficiency and renewable energy incentive programs provided \$4,360 as rebates back to our customers in 2017. In addition, the Department provided over \$4,000 towards residential home energy audits and donated \$250 to the annual Paxton Council on Aging picnic.

The Light Department also manages the bulb recycling program for the Town, covering all costs associated with the recycling. Over the last two and a half years, Paxton residents accumulated and recycled over 3,000 bulbs. The Light Department continues to read meters and provide billing services for both the Water Department and the Town's trash service in an effort to keep costs at a minimum for both rate payers and tax payers.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Lavalley, Manager
Paxton Light Commission
Emerson W. Wheeler III
John P. Crowley
John A. Ahern

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

Safety of all residents and guests of the Town of Paxton has been our primary mission. In our fast paced ever changing society we strive to stay current with trends in crime and deviant behavior. We have nurtured valuable external resource relationships. This agency has in place mutual aid agreements with state, federal and local law enforcement giving your Officers jurisdiction in all of Worcester County and beyond. This cooperation has proven critical to investigate crimes against your identities and attacks on your credit card accounts and financial institutions.

We have sought out enthusiastic Officers that not only patrol but buy into the values and style of our police department that has been developed over the years in response to needs of you the residents. I can assure all of you that no problem is too large or too small for any of my dispatchers or Officers. If you find yourself in need, all attention will be afforded to you. Your Officers enjoy the challenges of investigating crime or helping resolve issues that went beyond the family unit.

Police work has certainly evolved over my career of 32 years. Thinking back, I could never have predicted the scope of issues we deal with on a regular basis now. Bad events have been happening more frequently. The recent murders in nearby communities remind us we are not in a gated off area where there are no mischievous persons skulking about. For years I've heard the phrase "In Paxton" when recalling a tragedy, crime or other noteworthy incident. There is a common belief that somehow, we must be exempt from bad things in our lovely town. Yes, it is a lovely town and we keep you as safe as possible but people of all walks of life pass through or live here and there is a percentage of them that don't always follow the rules. My point is please don't be complacent. Report suspicious activity, trust your instincts, and take precautions.

We offer a Civilian Police Academy which is great way to get to know Officers of your department, gain insight into police work, and have some fun. I would also suggest you take part in one of our woman's self-defense classes, again for all the same reasons, but we instill a little extra confidence and teach that you don't have to be a victim. As needed we also offer state certification classes for a license to carry firearms and process those licenses here at the public safety center. Our website offers contact information and links. The programs I highlighted come from grants and private donations, not tax dollars. I encourage anyone, in a position to do so, to please donate to our gift account, so we may continue to offer programs beyond our dedicated budget.

Another noteworthy milestone occurred this year. We signed a second five-year agreement with Anna Maria College to continue to provide their policing needs. The benefits to both the college and Town are many. Additional Officers allow for better response and backup for Officers assigned to either the college or the Town. Sharing resources has led to reduced budgets for the town as well as reductions in capital outlay requests such as the acquisition of cruisers.

I conclude by stating again please do not hesitate to call on us. We are here to serve. Personally, it has been an honor and a privilege to have known all of you for these many years.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Robert Desrosiers, Police Chief

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

It has been a significant year for the Council on Aging, marked by new programs and increased senior participation. We continue to provide advocacy and support for our seniors, while maintaining their independence, improving quality of life, and preparing for life's changes. As the town's human service department, our focus is on health awareness, home and health support, counseling, wellness, and information and referral services.

This year we are meeting our challenges as we see an increase in our senior population. We continue to expand our programs and events while still identifying the individual needs of all seniors.

We provide Paxton seniors with an in-home outreach program.

- We meet with seniors, their families and caregivers in their homes and share information on various programs, benefits and provide assistance. We work closely with health and home agencies to ensure our seniors are getting the best care to help keep them safe in their home.
- Our nutrition program offers lunch at our senior center three days a week while also providing meals to our seniors in their home five days a week. We offer assistance with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as well as provide food pick up from the Wachusett Food Pantry once a month. A state certified counselor is on hand once a month for those in need of health insurance questions.
- Van transportation is provided for our seniors five days a week, with an average of 20 -30 individuals a week. Transportation is available for medical appointments, grocery shopping, and various other appointments.

Expanded weekly activities include, yoga, fitness, bowling, bocce and book club. In addition, we have an active Men's Club, Veteran's, quilting, and knitting groups.

All Paxton seniors receive our monthly newsletter with information on activities, programs, wellness, and events.

Some of our important programs for our seniors include our Annual Health Fair, Senior Picnic, Holiday Bazaar, Holiday Luncheons, and informational speakers and other special gatherings throughout the year. Once a month we offer a Coffee Café to our seniors where homemade pastries and coffee are provided.

The Friends of the Council on Aging provides support to the Council through various programs and monthly trips.

Our Council on Aging staff consist of a Director/ Outreach, Office Assistant, and two van drivers. The COA has nine Board Members and four Associate Board Members who meet the first Wednesday of every month.

With more than 1,050 seniors living in Paxton, we will continue to move forward in 2018 to meet the challenges and look at new ways to enhance the lives of this growing population.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Love, Director

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

All dogs and cats six months of age or older must be vaccinated against rabies. All dogs six months or older must be licensed by March 31st of each year with the Town Clerk. The Animal Control Officer can be reached by calling the Dispatch Center at 508-791-6600. All calls will be returned as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
B. Peter Warren, Jr.

CEMETERY COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

During FY17, there were 16 burials/cremations and 20 new plots sold. Following a collision between two cars at the intersection of Maple Street and Richards Avenue, an historic gravestone dating back to 1875 was severely damaged as was the dry-stone wall encompassing Center Cemetery behind Paxton Congregational Church. The Cemetery Commission granted approval for Historic Gravestone Services, New Salem, MA to accurately restore both the gravestone and the wall. Payment for these services was provided by the auto insurance of the driver responsible for the accident, and at no cost to the Town of Paxton.

The Cemetery Commission received some written requests from plot owners who have moved away from Paxton, requesting to sell their plots back to the Town of Paxton, at the same price paid at the time of the original purchase. Each request was examined individually, and approval given only after the commission members reviewed the specific details of each request and received a unanimous vote of approval. The Cemetery Commission approved the request by DPW Superintendent Mike Putnam to cover the expenses of necessary materials for Boy Scouts to repair the benches located on the Town Common.

The Cemetery Commission wants to thank the Paxton Legion Post for their donation of flags, and the Paxton Center School students who placed those flags on the graves of veterans for Memorial Day, 2017.

At our monthly meetings, initial discussions took place about the increasing need for further expansion of the cemetery on the South side to better meet the needs for plot sales for the residents of the Town of Paxton. Further discussion will continue into the next year, FY18.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Ann Mancini, Chairperson

PLANNING BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

For FY17, the Planning Board approved a Definitive Subdivision Plan for Bel Arbor Estates. There were several renewals for Temporary Accessory Use Apartments and one new one heard throughout the fiscal year. Also, eight Approval Not Required, ANR's, were approved along with four Storm Water Permits. The board met ten times and approved minutes are available on the towns' website. There were two new bylaws passed at Town Meeting. First a Temporary

Moratorium for Recreational Marijuana Sales Facilities and second, added for fast food restaurants, to include drive thru windows by Special Permit.

Respectfully submitted,
Neil A. Bagdis, Chairman

HISTORICAL COMMISSION **ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17**

The Paxton Historical was established in 1976 to preserve, document, and analyze historical documents and artifacts of Paxton's past.

Membership includes:

Anita Fenton – Chairman

Larry Spongberg – Secretary

Donna MacLean – Treasurer

Members: Pamela Hair, Karl Ottmar, and Donmarie Desrosiers

The Commission continued its annual project to publish a calendar depicting images that showcased people, places, and activities that are a part of Paxton's heritage focusing unique unpublished photos of early Paxton life. The 2016 calendar featuring antique wells still existing in Paxton proved highly successful and sold out completely.

Several Commission members gave tours of the town hall to the third grade classes from Paxton Center School with descriptions of social meetings, festive celebrations and town meeting that once occurred in the second floor Allen Hall in addition to a tour of the basement with its historical jail or "tramp room" and an unique four holer once in use in the building. A coloring contest of possible colors that once existed on the original town hall was also repeated with resulting pictures displayed in the foyer of the Paxton Senior Center.

For the town's annual June Paxton Days, the Commission displayed a colonial historic backdrop that Jennifer Niles, a local Paxton artist, was commissioned to create. Colonial costumes for men, women, and children were then supplied to the general public for them to portray colonial residents in front of the backdrop. Photos of each individual were later printed and available to all participants. Due to the positive feedback from participants it was decided to make this an annual event during Paxton Days and to increase the types and quantities of costumes that were purchased or created by commissioners.

The Commission continued to conduct sales of Barbara Beall's book which was very well received by residents. Also offered during the year were CDs based on the Commission's "Our Town" program for the Audio Journal and a DVD that combined archival photos of Paxton and the oral "Our Town" CD.

Open Historical Commission office hours were once again maintained during many months of the year for the education of local residents on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00 to 10:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Fenton

PAXTON CULTURAL COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

The Massachusetts Cultural Council allocated \$4500 to Paxton for grant approval in 2017. An additional \$311 brought the total of available funds to \$4811.

The Council received requests for \$10,735. The following funds were granted for 2017: Paxton Recreation – Summer Music Series for \$500; Paxton Scenic Byway – kiosk maintenance for \$125; Jim Manning – Summer Library Reading Program “Minecraft Madness” for \$450; Richards Memorial Library – Puppet Band Show for \$250; Richards Memorial Library – Passes to Worcester Art Museum for \$250; Richards Memorial Library – Passes to Ecotarium for \$200; Richards Memorial Library- Passes to Boston Museum of Science for \$350; Massachusetts Audubon Wachusett Meadow – Butterfly Garden Program and Planting for \$285; Doug Moore – Paxton Summer Jam for \$250; Paxton COA – St. Patrick’s Day Concert for \$175; Paxton COA – “Unsinkable” Program for \$225; Megan McFadden Paxton Center School – Discovery Museum Traveling Science Workshop “Bubbles” for \$581; Kate Soter Paxton Center School – play “teacher from the Black Lagoon” for \$700; and Deborah LaBombard Paxton Center School – Puppet play “Turtle’s Wetland Quest” for \$470.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard McGinn	Chairman
Donna Parsons	Secretary
Christie Barns	Treasurer
Cindy Love	
Marybeth Brown	

WIRING INSPECTOR
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

Permit applications and fee schedules are available at the Town Hall and on the Town’s web site www.townofpaxton.net. Permits may be applied for from the Selectmen’s Executive Assistant 508-754-7638 ext. 10. All wiring, whether done by the homeowner or a licensed electrician, requires a permit and inspection. Electricians should be prepared to show an electrician’s license and a current certificate of insurance.

Respectfully submitted,
John Reece

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

The Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC) began the planning cycle in August 2015, reviewing the status of capital items procured in prior fiscal years, status of items on the current project plan, the Town’s fixed assets, and current and project financial capacities. The Committee also welcomed new member Mark Love, but said goodbye to longstanding member Jerry Ryan. We wish to acknowledge Jerry’s years of service to the Town of Paxton, and we owe him a debt of gratitude and a huge thank you.

In September 2015 the CIPC reviewed and discussed the roof of the John Bauer Senior Activity Center. The following summary/discussion points were made:

- (1) The roof leak(s) have worsened, and rain water continues to penetrate two floor levels. As time passes, the structure and foundation will rapidly deteriorate.
- (2) There is ceiling and drywall damage in two rooms on the second floor.
- (3) There are adequate finances in the Capital Deprecation Fund to pay for a new roof.
- (4) We should leverage the Capital Deprecation Fund to finance the project and set a budget of 65,0000.00

The Committee voted that the roof project be placed on the warrant at the Special Town Meeting (STM), and submitted the following Warrant Article to the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$65,000 from the Capital Depreciation Fund to replace the leaking roof of the John Bauer Senior Activity Center; or act in any way thereon.

The Warrant Article was presented at the October 2015 Special Town Meeting and was approved unanimously.

In the next three months following the STM, the CIPC solicited and received the following FY17 Capital Improvement Projects:

- (1) Fire/EMS: Tanker Truck, at a cost of \$350K. (Borrow \$100K/\$250K FEMA Grant)
- (2) Fire/EMS: Command Car, at a cost of \$47K.
- (2) DPW: Backhoe, at a cost of \$123K. Utility Truck, at a cost of \$50K.
- (3) Richard Memorial Library: Facility Upgrades (Lighting, Insulation/WX Proofing, Carpeting), Update HVAC, Basement Meeting Room, at a cost \$60K-\$112K.

The CIPC reviewed all projects and met with the departments to discuss the Capital Budget submissions. Both DPW and the RML Board of Trustees withdrew their submissions for consideration. DPW will invest maintenance dollars to extend the service life of the 2002 John Deere Backhoe and 2006 Ford F350 Pickup Truck. RML needed more time to refine their requirements and obtain contracting bids; all items are on the Capital Plan and may be considered as a warrant article in the future. The CIPC passed over the Tanker Truck requirement until the FEMA AFG Grant decision is announced and deferred the Command Vehicle requirement to a later budget year.

At the 2016 Annual Town Meeting, the CIPC sponsored the following Warrant Articles:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the unexpended sum of \$6,000 from Article 3 of the October 15, Special Town Meeting (Account 0100-1192-5803-0000) to the Capital Depreciation Account; or act in anyway thereon.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds (Free Cash and/or Overlay Surplus), the sum of \$30,000 or any sum and transfer to the Capital Depreciation Fund, or act in any way thereon.

Both the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommended approval of the first warrant article, which was unexpended funds from the John Bauer Senior Center roof project. The

second warrant article was disapproved by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee and thus was not voted on.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Kent, Chairman
Forrest Smith, Vice Chair
Kateri Clute, Clerk
Mark Love
Jim McGrath
Carol Riches

VETERANS AGENT
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

The following report is of the activities of the Department of Veterans' Services for the Town of Paxton for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

The Department is responsible for the administration of veterans' benefits program, per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 115. It provides financial assistance to honorably-discharged, veterans who establish need and worthiness and are residents of the Town of Paxton. During the year the office extended benefits to qualified veterans totaling \$9,020.00 for housing, food, heat, medical and other related costs. The amount expended was reimbursed to the Town by the Commonwealth at a rate of 75% of total expenditures.

The Department also provided confidential counsel and advice to Paxton Veterans, their dependents, and survivors in obtaining information and benefits from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services, and the Town of Paxton Department of Veterans' Services.

In order to provide greater access and visibility, the Veteran's Agent has partnered with the Paxton Council on Aging (COA) Outreach Coordinator and American Legion Post 306. In the past year the Department participated monthly veteran events at the John Bauer Senior Center (every 2nd Wednesday, 10:30 am) and Post 306 Headquarters (every 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm).

Respectfully,
Jeffrey L. Kent, Veteran's Agent

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

Dear Residents of Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, and Sterling,

We have had an eventful 2017-2018 school year thus far. Over the past several months, the District continued to work toward the completion of the goals associated with the WRSD Strategic Plan. Our school district remains one of the strongest in Central Massachusetts as we create educational programming for our students that will prepare them for their future endeavors.

The WRSD Strategic Plan provides the Wachusett community with a sense of purpose as we define priorities and set budgets. Each school has developed a School Improvement Plan that ties directly back to the Strategic Plan and will help define budget priorities at both the building

level and the District level. Goals that have been set by administrators and teachers have common themes connected to the five learning domains, helping to bring our five town district toward common educational outcomes. This year we have focused on many areas including technology, improved instructional support, social emotional learning, and more.

In early November, the District and Member Town officials held the annual Budget Roundtable at the Holden Senior Center. This meeting is the opportunity to discuss budget issues associated with the upcoming fiscal year. As always, the meeting was well attended by town representatives, officials from the state, and members of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee. An important area of focus during the discussions was the recent report completed by the State Auditor's Office concerning the funding issues facing regional school districts throughout Massachusetts. Working together as a unified community, our five towns and the District have made a commitment to seek 100% reimbursement for regional transportation by lobbying our representatives to support our request. Grassroots organizations and our teachers union have been vocal in their support of more state funding for all regional school districts. Funding at the state level remains a major issue associated with the budget woes we have faced as a district and continues to be an area of concern for both local and state officials. As state funding continues to decline, we are even more dependent upon our local tax base to support our educational endeavors. If we all continue to advocate on behalf of the District to support the recommendations made not only by the State Auditor but also by the Foundation Budget Review Commission, it would help to ease the financial burden placed on both schools and towns.

Last year, the five towns that comprise the Wachusett District supported a budget that has permitted us the opportunity to increase support for our students. We look forward to continuing the forward progress made this past year as we look to create a budget that supports the Strategic Plan.

Thank you for your continued support of students, faculty, and staff of the WRSD.

Respectfully submitted,
Darryll McCall, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

BAYPATH REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL **ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17**

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School graduated a class of 260 students in June of 2017, and accepted a class of 295 freshmen in September of 2017. Our current enrollment has reached 1,120 students.

Of the 3 Paxton seniors who graduated, 3 are now attending College. Currently, 13 students from Paxton are enrolled in one of our 22 vocational areas.

Two Paxton students are receiving extra services from our Special Education Department.

Whenever possible, we have continued our practice of utilizing our occupational programs to provide requested services to municipalities, non-profit organizations and residents from any of our ten district towns. During the 2016-2017 school year, our 22 vocational programs completed 1,036 work orders, of which, 25 were for residents of the Town of Paxton.

Our Hilltop Restaurant and Minuteman Shoppe are opened to the public Tuesday through Friday from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Our cosmetology program is also open to the general public. Appointments for cosmetology services must be made in advance by calling the school. Residents of the Bay Path district are encouraged to take advantage of the services provided by our students. These learning opportunities benefit not only the students but provide useful services at reasonable costs to in-district residents. We will continue this type of work whenever possible, keeping in mind that the projects must be of educational value for our students.

Our Evening School Program continues to serve the adult needs of our 10-town district, as well as an additional 20 surrounding towns. Our Spring and Fall programs had a combined enrollment of 1,630, in programs ranging from Business & Finance, Career/ Licensing; Computers; Cooking; Entertainment; Health & Fitness; Hobbies & Crafts; Home & Job; Language & Art; and Sports & Leisure. The program also offered a wide variety of over 400 online courses, including career certificate programs and courses to satisfy professional development requirements for teachers.

This year, the only “Out of District” students that have been accepted are students who began their high school education at Bay Path while residing in one of the Districts ten-member towns and then subsequently moved out of the District before completing their high school education. It is important to note that the town where the students now reside must pay an out of district tuition for each student ranging in cost between \$15,212 and \$17,061. Those towns also pay the transportation costs for those students.

The Wachusett Regional School System continues to provide excellent cooperation for our recruiting program and we are thankful for their efforts. I believe that they share our feeling that all students must be given the right, the information, and the opportunity to make an informed school choice.

We, at Bay Path, will continue to serve Paxton with the finest vocational education programs available for high school students and adults, and will, when at all possible, use our skills and facilities to further town projects as they add to our students' education.

Respectfully submitted,
John A. Lafleche, Superintendent-Director

WACHUSETT WATERSHED REGIONAL RECYCLING CENTER
WACHUSETT EARTHDAY ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

Supported in part by the seven member towns of Boylston, Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Sterling and West Boylston, the MA Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) and the MA Department of Environmental Protection, Wachusett Earthday Inc strives to provide a local solution for difficult-to-dispose of household hazardous products, bulk household debris, as well as to offer a space for citizens to share gently used, but still serviceable items. Usage of the facilities and services provided by the volunteers at the Regional Recycle Center continues to grow and expand.

In 2017 the Recycle Center altered its hours slightly to accommodate a smoother flow for materials coming into the Reuse Building: new hours are Tues (9-11), Wed (2:30-4:30), Thurs (5-7) and every third Saturday (8-11). The Board voted to continue the practice of closing on Thursday evenings for the months of December, January and February, (opening on the first

Saturdays of those months as well as the third) due to generally inhospitable temperatures and dark evenings. Increased usage has brought an increased number of cars and amount of materials into the site:

	2016	2017
Total cars	26,456	28,007
Total gallons HHP	11,930	11,265 (1 less collection)
Total lbs Debris	1,633,388 (817tons)	1,806,578 (903 tons)
Tires	1,202	1,116

Thanks to a mattress recycling initiative grant through Mass DEP and the Town of Sterling, WEI sent 1,435 mattresses for recycling in 2017, keeping them out of landfills (in 2016, we recycled 838). This grant has been extended through January of 2019 which will greatly assist WEI in its efforts to continue waste reduction. After the grant terminates, WEI will be required to pay a fee to recycle mattresses.

Wachusett Earthday continues to work with numerous local and regional social service organizations. Working relationships established with Habitat for Humanity, the Montachusett Veterans Shelter, Veterans Inc, Abby's House, Andie's Attic (South High School/Worcester), the Department of Child/Family Services, Sterling Animal Shelter, Worcester Animal Rescue League, Nu-Day Syria, Refugee Artists of Worcester and numerous others continue to prove mutually beneficial.

Volunteers of Wachusett Earthday hail from all seven towns as well as several out-of-region towns. Volunteers, scout groups, the WPI Alpha Phi Omega service organization, students from Bancroft School and members of the Sheriff's Community Service Program all work towards the common goal of waste reduction, recycling and reuse. While the Site is open to the public for just over 6 hours each week, on average, hundreds of additional hours are put in during non-open times. Volunteers come in to organize and clean up several hours before and after each open shift as well as for three to four hours on non-open days.

Six household hazardous products collections were planned for 2017 and five were held: the first one in April was cancelled due to heavy snowfall. Three free document shredding days were held. The same number of collections is planned for 2018.

Holiday closings in 2018 will be: July 4, November 21, 22 & December 25, 26.

The Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycle Center Town Representative Team includes designated representatives of the seven Wachusett Towns, the MA Department of Conservation & Recreation and Wachusett Earthday, Inc. The Team meets annually to review operations. The board of directors of Wachusett Earthday, Inc, meets monthly to manage operations. After careful review of Wachusett Earthdays financials, the Board of Directors voted to hire its first employee, an Operations Manager who oversees the day to day activities at the site and who, in conjunction with the Volunteer Coordinator and Executive Board, assists in the management of the organization.

2017 Members of the Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycle Center Town Representatives:

Boylston–Martin McNamara/Lori Esposito
Holden–Pam Harding/Robin Farrington
Paxton–Carol Riches

Rutland–Sheila Dibb
Sterling–Ross Perry/Kama Jayne
West Boylston–Anita

Princeton–Arthur Allen/Nina Nazarian Scheipers/Mike Kittredge/Nancy Lucier
WEI – Helen Townsend
MA Department of Conservation & Recreation – John M. Scannell

2017 Board of Directors, Wachusett Earthday, Inc:

Connie Burr, Norma Chanis (Clerk), William Cronin, Susan Farr, Tim Harrington (Treasurer), Michael Kaprzicki, Mark Koslowske (Vice President & Operations Manager), Patt Popple, Vanya Seiss, Helen Townsend (President) and Robert Troy.

Retired in 2017: Joan Dunn, George Dvorak, Eric Johansen
We regret the passing of a long time member of the WEI family, John Lewis in August of 2017.

WACHUSETT GREENWAY **ANNUAL REPORT FY2017**

Wachusett Greenways (WG) is grateful to all who help connect the community with trails and greenways. The Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) is a treasured resource for health, recreation and transportation. Year-round neighbors and visitors benefit from the MCRT between Sterling and Barre. Wachusett Greenways and partners including eight Towns have completed and continue to maintain nearly 20 miles of the central 30 miles of the MCRT. The Commonwealth and others are constructing new sections of the MCRT along the 104-mile corridor to the east and west of us between Northampton and Boston.

On October 1, 2017, WG hosted the 20th birthday party of the MCRT in West Boylston where the first section of the trail was dedicated in October 1997. The birthday party featured more than twenty birthday cakes baked by friends. Twenty representatives from an amazing cast of partners and supporters over the last 20+ years helped cut the ribbon to commemorate the beginning of this wonderful community trail. The annual Springdale Mill Celebration followed the birthday dedication.

In 2017, every Select Board member of each of eight towns voted to support Town contributions to WG to assist with annual operating expenses. Six of the eight towns committed modest operating fund support in FY 18, and the remaining two towns will seek support in FY 19. WG Towns include Barre, Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Sterling, Oakham and West Boylston.

Major partners are the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), eight central Massachusetts Towns, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Mass Office of Travel and Tourism, each legislator, many local foundations and businesses. Each WG member, donor and volunteer is also central to continued success.

Restorations and improvements accomplished this year through a DCR Recreational Trails Program grant with WG match included:

1. Restore the embankment at the Parker Brook bridge east of the Route 122 crossing in Oakham. A large beaver dam under the bridge, heavy rain and a partial breach of the dam caused serious erosion. This project repaired the embankment and improved the stability of the bridge abutment.

2. Expand the parking lot at Muddy Pond outlet, Route 122, Oakham. WG expanded the parking lot from three cars to hold eight cars including one handicapped space and improve visibility.
3. Restore two culverts and embankments and add one step way in Rutland near Watson Lane. One repair included using large stone to stabilize the embankment. The second culvert require repair and rebuilding the headwalls. The contractor restored the surface with gravel and stone dust.
4. Complete one corner of the asphalt paving at the River Street, Holden parking lot.
5. Restore the parking lot at Sterling center. This improvement included regrading the entry drive and parking to improve drainage, and installing and compactor rolling additional gravel with a top coat of asphalt grindings.
6. Remove hazardous trees and branches overhanging the Charnock cut in Rutland with a professional tree company.
7. Purchase materials to complete MCRT restorations including gravel, stone dust, rip rap and plastic culvert pipe.
8. Purchase thirteen new granite benches for the MCRT between Barre and Sterling. These benches are a durable trail amenity, which visitors and donors appreciate.
9. WG developed new signs for trail entrances and for street direction along the Barre to Sterling MCRT corridor. The new signs improve the visibility and recognition of the MCRT.

Looking ahead to 2018. WG will complete additional MCRT restorations in Rutland and Sterling in 2018. The design for the new MCRT connection at the Route 140/ Beaman Street causeway in West Boylston is scheduled. Construction funds are committed for the trail approaches at each end of the causeway for 2018.

Partners stepped up to help maintain the MCRT. West Boylston Light Department pruned high dead branches on stately oaks. A community service crew scheduled by Sheriff Lew Evangelidis, the West Boylston Fire Department, West Boylston DPW, Nal's Paint and WG volunteers all helped prepare for the MCRT 20th birthday party in West Boylston. They provided paint and supplies, painted the 'train car' fire training station, repaired the bulletin board, removed invasives and refurbished entry landscaping.

Sterling DPW conducted extensive shoulder mowing and WG volunteers removed invasive saplings in Sterling. West Boylston DPW scheduled regular shoulder mowing. Holden DPW mowed the trail. Several towns and the DCR plowed parking lots. Rutland assisted in removing three hazard trees.

WG trail patrollers kept their rounds, checking for downed branches, removing parking lot litter, checking portable toilets, assisting with tree removals, and mowing. These steadfast volunteers deserve our thanks.

Other WG volunteers and visiting community groups painted picnic tables, removed hundreds of dead trees, and cleaned ditches...many ditches. WG also installed new benches and added new portable restrooms with increased service.

Members and Volunteers Count

Greenways grew to 932 donors in 2017 including 98 new members. 474 generous donors contributed to Wachusett Greenways' MCRT Construction Fund. A total of nearly 2780 friends

have contributed to WG, and some have been loyal members since 1997. More than 200 volunteers of all ages help each year.

WG volunteers attended the Massachusetts Annual Trails Conference, UMass Med School's Earthday Celebration and Holden Days. Greenways directors continued to share our experience with others working on rail trails around the Commonwealth. Greenways held hospitality days and trail counts on the rail trail.

One volunteer installed railings on the accessible ramp at 21 Miles Road, Rutland. Another completed surveying for the MCRT connection as we prepare to open the building in 2017. Greenways' vegetable garden produced a bountiful crop shared by volunteers and visitors. Landscaper Doug Hagman continued to donate mowing and leaf removal. Neighbor Everett Reynolds and others continue with snow removal. Sentry Oil makes generous oil contributions.

WG offered year-round outdoor events on trails throughout the region. Volunteers led walks, bicycling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing or other outdoor adventure.

A warm welcome for volunteers, members and supporters!

You are invited to contribute at www.wachusettgreenways.org. Wachusett Greenways, P.O. Box 121, Holden 01520. Members receive the Wachusett Greenways guide, which includes a map for the regions' trails and greenways. Volunteers welcome.

Wachusett Greenways Board of Directors:

Colleen Abrams, Chair	Troy Milliken, Treasurer
Christy Barnes	Michael Peckar, Secretary
Stephen Chanis	(Retired 5/17 Jeff Keay)



TOWN MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING JULY 27, 2016

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:02P.M.

MODERATOR DECLARED A QUORUM PRESENT. 83 REGISTERED VOTERS WERE SIGNED IN BY THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Moderator, Roger Brunelle, then stated that the Warrant had been properly posted.

As the first item of business, the Moderator requested that Town Meeting adopt a rule of this Special Town Meeting to provide that any motion requiring a two-thirds favorable vote, by statute or otherwise, shall be determined and declared by the Town Moderator and a count shall not be taken unless requested by the Town Moderator or requested by seven or more in attendance.

MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE RULE HAD BEEN ADOPTED.

The Moderator then stated that the purpose of this Special Meeting is to vote on the School Budget which was only partially approved at the Annual Town Meeting. The balance of the School Budget was approved subject to an override election which failed.

The School Committee has provided the Towns with a reduced school budget which we will be voting on in Article One. In order to fully fund the amount that is being requested without making it subject to an override, the Town is proposing to reduce the operating budgets of several town departments. That is what Article Two is about.

Because we can't fully fund the school budget unless those town department operating budgets are first reduced, I am going to take the Articles in the reverse order, starting with Number Two, the article to reduce some budgets.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 23 as voted and accepted at the Annual Town Meeting May 2, 2016 by reducing the town operating expenses of several departments as shown in the following table, in order to restrict further expenditures within these accounts, said reductions are necessary due to the override failure on May 9, 2016; or act in any way thereon.

Richard Fenton, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved article 2 as follows that the Town vote to amend Article 23 as voted and accepted at the Annual Town Meeting of May 2, 2016 by reducing the town operating budgets of several departments in the respective amounts shown in the table contained in Article 2 of the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting.

Account		Department	Approved amount	Proposed adjusted	Recommended
General Government			ATM 5/2/2016	budget reduction	revised budget
1913	Unemployment	Unemployment	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
180	WRTA	WRTA	\$27,635.00	\$14,735.00	\$12,900.00
<u>Total General Government</u>				<u>\$15,735.00</u>	<u>\$1,622,295.00</u>
Public Safety					
210-5103	Compensation	Police	\$853,761.00	\$10,300.00	\$843,461.00
220-5800	Equipment	Fire	\$22,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$19,500.00
<u>Total Public Safety</u>				<u>\$13,300.00</u>	<u>\$1,885,872.00</u>
Public Service					
421-5400	Supplies	Highway	\$34,489.00	\$4,800.00	\$29,689.00
<u>Total Public Services</u>				<u>\$4,800.00</u>	<u>\$704,214.00</u>
Sanitation and Environment					
443, 491, 510, 515, 519		unchanged	\$278,225.00	\$0.00	\$278,225.00
<u>Total Sanitation and Environment</u>				<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$278,225.00</u>
Human Services					
100-1541		COA Outreach Coord	\$10,848.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,848.00
<u>Total Human Services</u>				<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$65,411.00</u>
Culture and Recreation					
610-5200	Purchase Services	Library	\$12,837.00	\$1,700.00	\$11,137.00
610-5400	Supplies	Library	\$36,895.00	\$411.00	\$36,484.00
<u>Total Culture and Recreation</u>				<u>\$2,111.00</u>	<u>\$198,903.00</u>
Central Purchasing					
610-5200	Purchase Services	unchanged	\$188,890.00	\$0.00	\$188,890.00
<u>Total Central Purchasing</u>				<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$188,890.00</u>
Debt Services					
710-5760	Debt Notes & Bonds		\$888,698.00	\$0.00	\$888,698.00
Interest on Notes & Bonds					
715-0000	Debt Notes & Bonds		\$314,224.00	\$0.00	\$314,224.00
<u>Ttl Debt Ser & Interest/Notes & Bonds</u>				<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$1,202,922.00</u>
<u>Subtotal</u>				<u>\$40,946.00</u>	<u>\$6,146,732.00</u>
<u>Additional Revenues</u>		Local Receipts	\$15,265.00		
		Overlay	\$50,000.00		
		New Growth	\$40,000.00		
<u>Total</u>			\$105,265.00		
<u>Subtotal Excluding Schools</u>		\$6,146,732.00			
Total Schools		\$6,114,215.00			
Grand Total		<u>\$12,260,947.00</u>			

Article sponsored by the Finance Committee.

Richard Fenton, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved article 2 as follows: that the Town vote to amend Article 23 as voted and accepted at the Annual Town Meeting of May 2, 2016 by reducing the town operating budgets of several departments in the respective amounts shown in the table contained in Article 2 of the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommended approval.
Finance Committee recommended approval.

MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION PASSED.

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$77,152 and to further transfer from available funds (Overlay Surplus) the sum of \$50,000 for a total appropriation of \$127,152 to the Wachusett Regional School District Assessment, being an increase from the \$5,726,292 appropriation voted and accepted at the Annual Town Meeting, May 2, 2016 for a grand total appropriation of \$5,853,444; or act in any other way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Finance Committee.

Richard Fenton, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved Article 1 as follows: that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$77,152 and to further transfer from available funds (Overlay Surplus) the sum of \$50,000 for a total appropriation of \$127,152 to the Wachusett Regionals School District Assessment, being an increase from the \$5,726,292 appropriation voted and accepted at the Annual Town Meeting, May 2, 2016 for a grand total appropriation of \$5,853,444. The motion was seconded by Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Select Board recommended approval.

Finance Committee recommended approval.

MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION IS PASSED.

Motion made by Richard Fenton and seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting.

**MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WAS
DISSOLVED AT 7:29P.M.**

Roger Brunelle, Town Moderator

Submitted by:

Susan Stone, Town Clerk

WARRANT FOR STATE PRIMARY ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at

WARD 0, PRECINCT 1

**PAXTON CENTER SCHOOL
19 WEST STREET
PAXTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01612**

On **THURSDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016**, from **7:00A.M.to 8:00P.M.**

for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties

for the following offices:

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS SECOND DISTRICT

COUNCILLORSEVENTH DISTRICT

**SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN,
HAMPSHIRE**

& MIDDLESEX DISTRICT

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT...FIRST WORCESTER DISTRICT

SHERIFF.....WORCESTER COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this **twenty-fifth day of July, 2016.**

RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION:
DEMOCRATIC PARTY BALLOT

Representative In Congress:

James P. McGovern: 62

Blanks: 3

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 65

Councilor:

Matthew CJ Vance: 42

Blanks: 23

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 65

Senator In General Court:

Anne M. Gobi: 58

Blanks: 7

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 65

Representative In General Court:

Blanks: 64

Write-Ins: 1

Total: 65

Sheriff:

Blanks: 62

Write-Ins: 3

Total: 65

GREEN RAINBOW PARTY BALLOT:

No Ballots Cast.

REPUBLICAN PARTY BALLOT:

Representative In Congress:

Blanks: 51

Write-Ins: 1

Total: 52

Councilor:

Jennie L. Caissie: 45

Blanks: 7

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 52

Senator In General Court:

James P. Ehrhard: 44

Blanks: 8

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 52

Representative In General Court:

Kimberly N. Ferguson: 50

Blanks: 2

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 52

Sheriff:

Lewis G. Evangelidis: 50

Blanks: 2

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 52

UNITED INDEPENDENT PARTY BALLOT

No Ballots Cast.

WARRANT FOR STATE ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016

WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at

WARD 0, PRECINCT 1

**PAXTON CENTER SCHOOL
19 WEST STREET
PAXTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01612**

On **TUESDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2016**, from **7:00A.M.to 8:00P.M.** for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices and questions:

**ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ...FOR THIS
COMMONWEALTH**

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS..... SECOND DISTRICT

**COUNCILLORSEVENTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT.....WORCESTER, HAMPDEN,
HAMPSHIRE**

**& MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT...FIRST WORCESTER DISTRICT
SHERIFF.....WORCESTER COUNTY**

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow the state Gaming Commission to issue one additional category 2 license, which would permit operation of a gaming establishment with no table games and not more than 1,250 slot machines.

The proposed law would authorize the Commission to request applications for the additional license to be granted to a gaming establishment located on property that is (i) at least four acres

in size; (ii) adjacent to and within 1,500 feet of a race track, including the track's additional facilities, such as the track, grounds, paddocks, barns, auditorium, amphitheater, and bleachers; (iii) where a horse racing meeting may physically be held; (iv) where a horse racing meeting shall have been hosted; and (v) not separated from the race track by a highway or railway.

A YES VOTE would permit the state Gaming Commission to license one additional slot-machine gaming establishment at a location that meets certain conditions specified in the law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws regarding gaming.

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to approve up to 12 new charter schools or enrollment expansions in existing charter schools each year. Approvals under this law could expand statewide charter school enrollment by up to 1% of the total statewide public-school enrollment each year. New charters and enrollment expansions approved under this law would be exempt from existing limits on the number of charter schools, the number of students enrolled in them, and the amount of local school districts' spending allocated to them.

If the Board received more than 12 applications in a single year from qualified applicants, then the proposed law would require it to give priority to proposed charter schools or enrollment expansions in districts where student performance on statewide assessments is in the bottom 25% of all districts in the previous two years and where demonstrated parent demand for additional public-school options is greatest.

New charter schools and enrollment expansions approved under this proposed law would be subject to the same approval standards as other charter schools, and to recruitment, retention, and multilingual outreach requirements that currently apply to some charter schools. Schools authorized under this law would be subject to annual performance reviews according to standards established by the Board.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2017.

A YES VOTE would allow for up to 12 approvals each year of either new charter schools or expanded enrollments in existing charter schools, but not to exceed 1% of the statewide public-school enrollment.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to charter schools.

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would prohibit any farm owner or operator from knowingly confining any breeding pig, calf raised for veal, or egg-laying hen in a way that prevents the animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs, or turning around freely. The proposed law would also prohibit any business owner or operator in Massachusetts from selling whole eggs intended for human consumption or any uncooked cut of veal or pork if the business owner or operator knows or should know that the hen, breeding pig, or veal calf that produced these products was

confined in a manner prohibited by the proposed law. The proposed law would exempt sales of food products that combine veal or pork with other products, including soups, sandwiches, pizzas, hotdogs, or similar processed or prepared food items.

The proposed law's confinement prohibitions would not apply during transportation; state and county fair exhibitions; 4-H programs; slaughter in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; medical research; veterinary exams, testing, treatment and operation if performed under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; five days prior to a pregnant pig's expected date of giving birth; any day that pig is nursing piglets; and for temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes not to exceed six hours in any twenty-four hour period.

The proposed law would create a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation and would give the Attorney General the exclusive authority to enforce the law, and to issue regulations to implement it. As a defense to enforcement proceedings, the proposed law would allow a business owner or operator to rely in good faith upon a written certification or guarantee of compliance by a supplier.

The proposed law would be in addition to any other animal welfare laws and would not prohibit stricter local laws.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would prohibit any confinement of pigs, calves, and hens that prevents them from lying down, standing up, fully extending their limbs, or turning around freely.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to the keeping of farm animals.

QUESTION 4: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

The proposed law would permit the possession, use, distribution, and cultivation of marijuana in limited amounts by persons age 21 and older and would remove criminal penalties for such activities. It would provide for the regulation of commerce in marijuana, marijuana accessories, and marijuana products and for the taxation of proceeds from sales of these items.

The proposed law would authorize persons at least 21 years old to possess up to one ounce of marijuana outside of their residences; possess up to ten ounces of marijuana inside their residences; grow up to six marijuana plants in their residences; give one ounce or less of marijuana to a person at least 21 years old without payment; possess, produce or transfer hemp; or make or transfer items related to marijuana use, storage, cultivation, or processing.

The measure would create a Cannabis Control Commission of three members appointed by the state Treasurer which would generally administer the law governing marijuana use and distribution, promulgate regulations, and be responsible for the licensing of marijuana commercial establishments. The proposed law would also create a Cannabis Advisory Board of fifteen members appointed by the Governor. The Cannabis Control Commission would adopt regulations governing licensing qualifications; security; record keeping; health and safety standards; packaging and labeling; testing; advertising and displays; required inspections; and such other matters as the Commission considers appropriate. The records of the Commission

would be public records.

The proposed law would authorize cities and towns to adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of operating marijuana businesses and to limit the number of marijuana establishments in their communities. A city or town could hold a local vote to determine whether to permit the selling of marijuana and marijuana products for consumption on the premises at commercial establishments.

The proceeds of retail sales of marijuana and marijuana products would be subject to the state sales tax and an additional excise tax of 3.75%. A city or town could impose a separate tax of up to 2%. Revenue received from the additional state excise tax or from license application fees and civil penalties for violations of this law would be deposited in a Marijuana Regulation Fund and would be used subject to appropriation for administration of the proposed law.

Marijuana-related activities authorized under this proposed law could not be a basis for adverse orders in child welfare cases absent clear and convincing evidence that such activities had created an unreasonable danger to the safety of a minor child.

The proposed law would not affect existing law regarding medical marijuana treatment centers or the operation of motor vehicles while under the influence. It would permit property owners to prohibit the use, sale, or production of marijuana on their premises (with an exception that landlords cannot prohibit consumption by tenants of marijuana by means other than by smoking); and would permit employers to prohibit the consumption of marijuana by employees in the workplace. State and local governments could continue to restrict uses in public buildings or at or near schools. Supplying marijuana to persons under age 21 would be unlawful.

The proposed law would take effect on December 15, 2016.

A YES VOTE would allow persons 21 and older to possess, use, and transfer marijuana and products containing marijuana concentrate (including edible products) and to cultivate marijuana, all in limited amounts, and would provide for the regulation and taxation of commercial sale of marijuana and marijuana products.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to marijuana.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this **twenty-fourth day of October, 2016.**

RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2016 STATE ELECTION

Electors of President and Vice-President:

Clinton and Kaine: 1213
Johnson and Weld: 151
Stein and Baraka: 38
Trump and Pence: 1197
Blanks: 48
Write-Ins:
McMullin and Johnson: 4
All Others: 57
Total: 2708

Representative In Congress:

James P. McGovern: 1908
Blanks: 743
Write-Ins:
All Others: 57
Total: 2708

Councilor:

Jennie L. Caissie: 1507
Matthew CJ Vance: 942
Blanks: 257
Write-Ins
All Others: 2
Total: 2708

Senator In General Court:

Anne M. Gobi: 1447
James P. Ehrhard: 1084
Blanks: 177
Write-Ins: 0
Total: 2708

Representative In General Court:

Kimberly N. Ferguson: 1974
Blanks: 730
Write-Ins
All Others: 4
Total: 2708

Sheriff:

Lewis G. Evangelidis: 2015
Blanks: 677
Write-Ins
All Others: 16
Total: 2708

Question 1:

Yes: 1057

No: 1545

Blanks: 106

Total: 2708

QUESTION 2:

Yes: 825

No: 1839

Blanks: 44

Total: 2708

Question 3:

Yes: 1987

No: 671

Blanks: 50

Total: 2708

Question 4:

Yes: 1235

No: 1446

Blanks: 27

Total: 2708

**TOWN OF PAXTON COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS ANNUAL TOWN
MEETING RESULTS**

WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Paxton Center School Cafetorium, West Street, Paxton on May 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the articles:

Article 1 – Water Department Receipts To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through Water Department receipts, water fees, or water charges, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise, as follows:

Compensation	\$174,666
Expenses	\$81,857
Debt	\$112,208
 Total	 \$1,105,445

and that \$1,105,445 is raised as follows:

Department receipts	\$1,065,445
Retained Earnings	\$40,000

Or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Water Commissioners.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.

Article 1 was moved as follows by John Malone, Chairman of the Water Board that the Town vote to raise and appropriate through water Department Receipts, water fees or water charges, the following sums for the Water Enterprise:

Compensation:	\$174,666
Expenses:	\$818,571
Debt:	<u>\$112,208</u>
Total:	\$1,105,445

and that \$1,105,445 be raised as follow:

Department receipts:	\$1,065,445
Retained Earnings:	\$40,000

There was a discrepancy in the amount of Expenses. The Moderator allowed it to be moved as \$818,571 as the total amount was the same and it was the intent of the Water Department to be \$818,571.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION CARRIED.

Article 2 – OPEB Account To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$0.00 or any other sum to fund the OPEB Account (Other Post-Employment Benefits); or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Motion: Peter Bogren, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved that the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$0. to fund the OPEB Account. The motion was seconded by Julia Pingitore.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee both recommended approval.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 3 – Stabilization Fund To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommends pass over.

Finance Committee recommends pass over.

Motion: Peter Bogren, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen moved that the Town take no action on Article 3.

Board of Selectmen recommended taking no action, Finance Committee recommended passing over.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION IS PASSED.

Article 4 – Chapter 90 To see if the Town will vote to accept any funds to be allocated by the Commonwealth under authorization of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, (pertaining to Highway Funds); to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts for the construction, reconstruction, and improvement of Town roads; and to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of receipt of said funds; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by Board of Selectmen and D.P.W. Superintendent.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

MOTION: Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to accept any funds to be allocated by the Commonwealth under authorization of Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, (pertaining to Highway Funds); to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts for the construction, reconstruction, and improvement of Town roads; and to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of receipt of said funds: said funds to be expended under the direction of the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works. The motion was seconded by Julia Pingitore.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee recommended approval.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION PASSED.

Article 5 – Revolving Accounts To see if the Town will vote to authorize or reauthorize for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017 all revolving accounts previously established under Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, of the General Laws, with all expenditures under said revolving accounts not to exceed one percent (1%) of the amount raised by taxation in prior fiscal year, as follows;

Revolving Fund	Purpose	Funds to be Deposited From	Authority to Spend Fund	Maximum Expenditure
Council on Aging	Van Expenses	Donations and fees from riders	Council on Aging	\$25,000
Recreation Revolving	Support of all Recreation Programs	Program fees, donations, gifts, private sponsorship, facilities fees	Recreation Commission	\$91,000
Library	Purchase New Books, videos and library materials	Fines for overdue books & videos	Board of Library Trustees	\$20,000
Paxton Days	Support the Paxton Days Annual Event	Event fees, donations, gifts, private sponsorship	Paxton Days Committee	\$5,000

or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.

MOTION: Peter Bogren, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, moved that the Town vote to authorize for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 all revolving accounts previously established under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, namely, Council on Aging, Recreation Revolving Account, Library Revolving Account and Paxton Days, to be used for the purposes and subject to the limitations stated in Article 5. The motion was seconded by Julia Pingitore.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION IS PASSED.

Article 6 – Departmental Revolving Funds Bylaw To see if the Town will vote to adopt a new Department Revolving Funds Bylaw, to comply with recent amendments to Chapter 44,

Section 53E ½, of the General Laws, as shown on the document entitled “Departmental

Revolving Funds Bylaw” on file in the Town Clerk’s Office and available for inspection during the Town Clerk’s regular business hours; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting.

MOTION: Peter Bogren, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, moved that the Town vote to adopt a new Department Revolving Funds Bylaw, to comply with recent amendments to Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, of the General Laws, as shown on the document entitled Departmental Revolving Funds Bylaw on file in the Town Clerk's Office and available for inspection during the Town Clerk's regular business hours. The motion was seconded by Julia Pingitore.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee recommended approval.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION IS PASSED.

Article 7 – Appropriate funds to Road Improvement To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$102,500 to the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$102,500 to the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION IS PASSED.

Article 8 – Use funds from the Road Improvement To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$102,500 from the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of resurfacing roads; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Peter Bogren moved that the town vote to appropriate the sum of \$102,500 from the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of resurfacing roads. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT IT PASSED BY MORE THAN A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE.

Article 9 – DPW Pickup Truck To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 21C of the Massachusetts General Laws to enter into a seven year “lease to own” agreement for the purpose of acquiring a new 2017 Ford F350 Pickup Truck with plow for the Department of Public Works in the amount of \$57,000, to replace the existing 2006 Ford F350 Pickup Truck, with a first-year lease payment of \$9,440, and with the remaining six yearly payments to be raised and appropriated as part of the Highway Department budget; or act any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.

Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommends approval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 21C of the Massachusetts General Laws to enter into a seven year "lease to own" agreement for the purpose of acquiring a new 2017 Ford F350 Pickup Truck with plow for the Department of Public Works in the amount of \$57,000, to replace the existing 2006 Ford F350 Pickup Truck, with a first-year lease payment of \$9,440, and with the remaining six yearly payments to be raised and appropriated as part of the Highway Department Budget. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION PASSED BY MORE THAN A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE.

Article 10 – DPW Site and Design To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$150,000, or any other sum, to conduct a Site Plan and Initial Design (Phase One) of a new Department of Public Works Facility; provided, however, that this appropriation and debt authorization shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion referendum under Chapter 59, Section 21C (k), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.
Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommends approval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote to borrow the sum of \$150,000 to conduct a Site Plan and Initial Design (Phase One) of a new Department of Public works Facility; provided, however, that this appropriation and debt authorization shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion referendum under Chapter 59, Section 21C(k), of the General Laws. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT IT PASSED.

Article 11 – Police Vehicle To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide the sum of \$41,910, or any other sum, to purchase one 2017 Ford Police Interceptor Utility for the Police Department to replace the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser (Car #3), with all proceeds generated from the disposal of said vehicle to be deposited into the Capital Depreciation Fund, provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 ½ capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i ½), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommends approval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$41,910 to purchase one 2017 Ford Police Interceptor Utility for the Police Department to replace the 2008 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser (Car #3), with all proceeds generated from the disposal of said vehicle to be deposited into the Capital Depreciation Fund, provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 1/2 capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (I 1/2), of the General Laws. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 12 – Town Hall Exterior Repairs To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide the sum of \$70,000, or any other sum for painting, lead abatement and minor repairs to the exterior of the Town Hall; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 ½ capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i ½), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommends approval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000, for painting, lead abatement and minor repairs to the exterior of the town Hall; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 1/2 capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21 C (i 1/2), of the General Laws. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED UNDER ARTICLE 12.

Article 13 – Senior Center Window Replacement To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide the sum of \$120,000, or any other sum for window replacement and minor repairs for the John Bauer Senior Center; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 ½ capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i ½), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends disapproval.
Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommends approval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000, for window replacement and minor repairs for the John Bauer Senior Center; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 1/2 capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i 1/2), of the General Laws.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 14 – PCS wireless network To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$40,000 or any other sum from the unexpended balance from the appropriation for the Paxton Center School Green Improvement Project, approved at the May 2, 2011 Annual Town Meetings under Article 3, to pay for the installation of a wireless local area network in the Paxton Center School, or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Capital Improvements Planning Committee.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.
Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommends approval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$40,000 from the unexpended balance from the appropriation for the Paxton Center School Green Improvement Project, approved at the May 2, 2011 Annual Town Meetings under Article 3, to pay for the installation of a wireless local area network in the Paxton Center School. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED UNDER ARTICLE 14.

Article 15 – Wachusett Greenways To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to contribute towards the environmental educational programs, teaching gardens programs and organized Mass Central Rail Trail walks provided by the Wachusett Greenways for the residents of Paxton; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to contribute towards the environmental educational programs, teaching gardens programs and organized Mass Central Rail Trail walks provided by the Wachusett Greenways for the residents of Paxton. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 16 – Marijuana Moratorium Bylaw To see if the Town will vote to adopt a new Zoning Bylaw for a Temporary Moratorium for Recreational Marijuana Establishments as Section 3.2.4.27 in the Use Schedule and 3.3.15 in Special Conditions in the current Paxton Zoning Bylaws, as show on the document entitled “Marijuana Moratorium Bylaw” on file in the Town Clerk’s office and available for inspection during regular business hours; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Planning Board.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting.

MOTION PASSED.

Article 17 – Drive Through Bylaw To see if the Town will vote to amend the Paxton Zoning Bylaw to allow by Special Permit drive through windows at fast food restaurants, restaurants or similar place for serving of food and beverage, but only if the restaurant building is not more than two thousand (2,000) square feet in area as section 3.2.4.3B, as shown on the document entitled “Drive Through Bylaw” on file in the Town Clerk’s office and available for inspection during regular business hours; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Planning Board.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.
Planning Board recommends disapproval.

Jeffrey Kent moved that the Town vote amend the Paxton Zoning Bylaw to add a new Section 3.2.4.3B in the use Schedule to allow drive through windows by special permit, as shown on the document entitled "Drive Through Bylaw," on file in the Town Clerk's office and available for inspection during regular business hours.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION PASSED BY A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE.

Article 18 – Quarterly Tax Payments To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 57C, of the Massachusetts General Laws for adopting or establishing a quarterly tax payment system, to be effective as of July 1, 2017 for Fiscal Year 2018 or take any other action relative thereto.

Article sponsored by the Tax Collector.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends approval.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 57C, of the Massachusetts General Laws for adopting or establishing a quarterly tax payment system, to be effective as of July 1, 2017 for Fiscal Year 2018. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 19 – Conservation Commission Wetlands Bylaw To see if the Town will vote to adopt a Wetlands Bylaw to allow for the protection of wetlands resources areas in the Town of Paxton by controlling activities deemed by the Conservation Commission likely to have a significant or cumulative effect on resource area values, including public or private water supply, groundwater supply, flood control, erosion and sedimentation control, storm damage prevention, water quality, prevention and control of pollution, fisheries, wildlife habitat, rare species habitat including rare plant and animal species, agriculture, aquaculture, and recreation values, deemed important to the community, by

1. creating a wetland setback area: 15-foot setback of no disturbance and 30-foot setback for all permanent structures,
2. increasing the required replication ration from 1.5:1 to 2:1,
3. implementing fines for enforcement and increase fees for after-the-fact filings,

as shown on the document entitled “Wetlands Bylaw” on file in the Town Clerk’s Office and available for inspection during regular Town Hall business hours; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Conservation Commission.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting- recommended approval.
Conservation Commission recommends approval.

Timothy Laurant moved that the Town vote to adopt a Wetlands Bylaw as shown on the document entitled "Wetlands Bylaw" on file in the Town Clerk's Office prior to this meeting, modified by insertion of the word "certified" before the words "vernal pool" in Section II of the proposed Bylaw, as shown in the document entitled "Revisions to Proposed Wetlands Bylaw," made available and wiled with the Town Clerk at this meeting. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED BY A VOTE OF 72 TO 62.

Article 20 – Local Meal Tax To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, and impose a local meals excise; or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting- recommended approval at Town Meeting.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, and impose a local meals excise. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS BEEN DEFEATED BY A VOTE OF 57 YES, 68 NO.

Article 21 – Wachusett Regional School District To see if the Town will vote to allow the Wachusett Regional School District Committee to name the courtyard in the Art Department at the Wachusett Regional High School in honor of Mr. Ralph Caouette; or take any action in relation thereto.

Article sponsored by the Wachusett Regional School District Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to allow the Wachusett Regional School District committee to name the courtyard in the Art Department in honor of Mr. Ralph Caouette. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 22 – Town Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,890,895 or any other sum, and to further appropriate, from the EMS Receipts Account, the sum of \$328,500 or any other sum, and to further appropriate, from the Title V Special Assessment Account, the sum of \$7,698 or any other sum, and to further appropriate, from the Overlay Surplus Account, the sum of \$0.00 or any other sum, and to further appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$398,384 or any other sum, for a total appropriation of \$6,622,477 or any other sum, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017, and especially for any and all of the items shown on the attached Budget; or act in any way thereon.

Article Sponsored by the Finance Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee recommends approval.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,890,895 and to further appropriate, from the EMS Receipts Account, the sum of \$328,500, and to further appropriate from the Title V Special Assessment Account, the sum of \$7,698, and to further appropriate, from the Overlay Surplus Account, the sum of \$0, and further appropriate from Free Case the sum of \$398, 384 for a total of \$6,622,477 to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

THE BUDGET UNDER ALL THE CATERGORIES PASSED.

Article 23 - WRSD Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,875,015 to pay its assessed share of the Wachusett Regional School District Budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017, and to raise and appropriate an additional \$190,092 required to fully fund the \$6,065,107 assessment from the District and thereby approve the District's budget for said fiscal year, provided that this additional appropriation shall be contingent on the approval of a Proposition 2 ½ levy limit override under Chapter 59, Section 21C(g), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article Sponsored by the Finance Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting - recommended approval at Town Meeting.

Richard Fenton moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,875,015 to pay its assessed share of the Wachusett Regional School District Budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017, and that the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$190,092 required to fully fund the \$6,065,107 assessment from the District, and thereby approve the District's budget for said fiscal year, provided that this additional appropriation of \$190,092 shall be contingent upon the approval of a Proposition 2 1/2 levy limit override under chapter 59, Section 21C(g) of the General Laws. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS FAILED. VOTE WAS YES: 60, NO: 79.

Article 24 - Bay Path Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$277,410 to pay its assessed share of the Bay Path Regional Technical School Budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017; or act in any way thereon.

Article Sponsored by the Finance Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make a recommendation at the Town meeting - recommended approval at Town Meeting.

Richard Fenton moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$228,261 to pay its assessed share of the Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION HAS PASSED.

Article 25 – Out of District Student Expenses To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,149 to pay the Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocation Tuition Assessment and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for the Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Transportation: or act in any way thereon.

Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.
Board of Selectmen recommends approval.
Finance Committee recommends disapproval.

Peter Bogren moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,149 to pay the Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-resident Vocation Tuition Assessment and further raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for the Norfolk County Regional Agricultural High School Non-Resident Transportation. The motion was seconded.

THE MODERATOR DECLARED THAT THE MOTION PASSED.

TOWN OF PAXTON COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MAY 8, 2017
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

Selectboard

John F. Malone: 228
Blanks: 70
Write-Ins: 5
Total: 303

Assessor

Doris E. Huard: 250
Blanks: 53
Write-Ins: 0
Total: 303

Municipal Light Board:

John A. Ahern: 240
Blanks: 60
Write-Ins: 3
Total: 303

Water Board:

John F. Malone: 227
Blanks: 75
Write-Ins: 1
Total: 303

Moderator:

Roger J. Brunelle: 249
Blanks: 52
Write-Ins: 2
Total: 303

Constables (2 Positions)

Paul F. Ruane: 231
B. Peter Warren Jr.: 240
Blanks: 134
W

Write-Ins: 1

Total: 606

Planning Board

Neil A. Bagdis: 233

Blanks: 69

Write-Ins: 1

Total: 303

Board of Health

Judy A. Hatstat: 244

Blanks: 59

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 303

Cemetery Commission

Judith Ann Mancini: 251

Blanks: 52

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 303

Library Trustee (2 Positions)

Patricia Dawson: 245

Nicholas A. Powlovich: 230

Blanks: 129

Write-Ins: 2

Total: 606

Recreation Commission (2 Positions)

Elizabeth M. Howard: 245

Blanks: 344

Write-Ins:

Jeff Cormier: 8

All Others: 9

Total: 604

Southern Worc. County Reg. Voc. School Committee

Robert A. Wilby: 246

Blanks: 56

Write-Ins: 1

Total: 302

Tree Warden

James H. Robert: 242

Blanks: 61

Write-Ins: 0

Total: 303

Wachusett Reg. School District Committee

Blanks: 293

Write-Ins: 10

Total: 303

QUESTION 1

Yes: 125

No: 173

Blanks: 5

Total: 303

QUESTION 2

Yes: 136

No: 160

Blanks: 7

Total: 303

QUESTION 3

Yes: 155

No: 143

Blanks: 5

Total: 303

QUESTION 4

Yes: 161

No: 135

Blanks: 7

Total: 303

QUESTION 5

Yes: 130

No: 168

Blanks: 5

Total: 303



TOWN CLERK

TOWN CLERK
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

VITAL STATISTICS REPORT

Births: 43
Marriages: 15
Deaths: 25

DOG LICENSES ISSUED:

Male/Female: 64
Neutered/Spayed: 607
Kennel Licenses: 2
Service Dogs: 1
Transfers 2

Amount Paid to General Fund: \$10,233.50

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan E. Stone, Town Clerk

BOARD OF REGISTRARS
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY17

The Board of Registrars held new voter registration during the year as required by law.

<u>New Totals</u>	<u>June 30, 2017</u>
Democrat	700
Republican	454
Libertarian	8
Political Designations	39
<u>Unenrolled</u>	<u>1957</u>
Total	3158

Voting is held in the Paxton Center School which is handicap accessible. Town Hall is also handicap accessible for Voter Registration.

Early Voting was offered for the first time in Massachusetts and 603 Paxton Voters voted early in the State Election of November 8 2016. Early Voting was held in the Town Hall.

Currently, a new election law allows someone who is 16 or 17 to pre-register to vote. They will automatically be registered to vote when they turn 18. Paxton has a number of pre-registrants awaiting voter registration.



TOWN ACCOUNTANT

**REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

**Combined Balance Sheet
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Enterprise Funds	Long Term Debt	Total (memorandum)
Cash & Investments	1,024,018	2,306,325	2,186,061		5,516,405
Property & Excise Tax Receivables	453,214				453,214
Other Receivables	21,411	344,742	312,490		678,643
Amount to be Provided for Long Term Debt Obligations				7,880,420	7,880,420
Total Assets	\$ 1,498,643	\$ 2,651,067	\$ 2,498,551	\$ 7,880,420	\$ 14,528,681
Payables	167,774	119,696	50,338		337,808
Allowance for Exempt & Abatements	165,628				165,628
Deferred Revenue:					
Property & Excise Taxes	287,585				287,585
Other Departmental	21,411	344,742	312,490		678,643
Bonds Payable				7,880,420	7,880,420
Total Liabilities	\$ 642,398	\$ 464,438	\$ 362,828	\$ 7,880,420	\$ 9,350,085
Reserved for Encumbrances and Continuing Appropriations	47,145		26,104		73,249
Reserved For Expenditures	395,384		40,000		435,384
Other Reserves	(23,300)	335,904			312,604
Designated F/B		1,850,725			1,850,725
Undesignated F/B	437,016		2,069,619		2,506,635
Total Fund Balances	\$ 856,245	\$ 2,186,629	\$ 2,135,723	\$ -	\$ 5,178,597
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 1,498,643	\$ 2,651,067	\$ 2,498,551	\$ 7,880,420	\$ 14,528,681

**Schedule of Special Revenue Funds
As of June 30, 2017**

Ambulance Receipts Reserved	374,365
Cemetery Sale of Lots	154,152
PSC Septic Replacement	4,390
Title V Loan Program	134,493
K-9 Grant	12,012
AMC Fund	6,589
Police Road Details	6,381
Fire Details	(1,648)
Firearms Licensing	1,613
Police Donations	44,214
Emergency Management Donation	293
Fire Donations	486
Ambulance Donations	2,259
Historical Donations	4,431
COAGifts/Donations	13,998
Library Donations	2,749
250th Anniversary Celebration	225
Recreation 53D Fund	9,874
Paxton Days	757
COA Revolving Fund	11,484
Library Revolving	5,439
Recreation Revolving Fund	100,590
Wetland Protection	31,555
Cable Committee Revolving	167,943
SETB Police Grant	(2,973)
Bullet Proof Vest Grant	(3,125)
Fire DCR Grant	(2,000)
Fire Safe Grant	5,077
Chapter 90 Grant	(75,628)
Mass Works Grant	147
Cultural Council Grant	2,816
Library State Grant	27,696
BOH Grant	1,400
Public Safety Complex	167
Center School Green Project	55,494
Glad Hill Associates	6,971
Highland Village	58,105
Fox Run / Molumco Development	2,073
Forestdale Realty	8,099
JK Scanlan / PHP	6,669

<u>TRUST FUNDS</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL</u>	<u>EXPENDABLE</u>
Cemetery Perpetual Care	123,469	10,677
Village Improvement	1,000	1,613
D. Russell Poor Fund	7,675	10,098
C.D. Boynton General Purpose	1,000	63,934
Bigelow School	1,000	502
Richard Memorial Library	166,826	79,844
Howland Library	10,501	15,953
Bigelow Library	23,298	23,493
Hazel Gay	393	217
Library Trust AT&T, Lucent, Comcast	180	8,720
Comcast Stock	562	-
War Bond General Purpose		6,632
Conservation Fund		18,279
Municipal Affordable Housing		250
Capital Depreciation		33,618
Stabilization		397,263

GENERAL FUND
Appropriation / Expenditure Report
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
<u>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</u>				
Salaries	5,170	5,170		-
Secretary Salaries	42,787	42,297		492
Purchased Services	10,816	10,704		112
Supplies	500	314		186
Other Expenses	17,456	16,866		590
<u>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR</u>				
Salary	81,565	81,565		-
Purchased Services	975	925		50
Car Allowance	1,500	1,500		-
Supplies	100	98		2
<u>TOWN SERVICES</u>				
Coordinator Salary	27,467	26,209		1,258
Purchased Services	74	-		74
Supplies	300	300		-
<u>FINANCE COMMITTEE</u>				
Purchased Services	260	155		105
Supplies	15			15
RESERVE FUND	30,302			30,302
<u>ACCOUNTANT</u>				
Salary	29,140	29,140		-
Purchased Services	375	375		-
Supplies	300	127		173
<u>BOARD OF ASSESSORS</u>				
Board Salary	4,586	4,586		-
Administrative Assessor	40,976	40,976		-
Purchased Services	3,460	3,411		49
Supplies	500	408		92
Other Expenses	15,500	15,372		128
<u>TREASURER</u>				
Salary	17,196	17,196		-
Assistant	10,248	10,133		115
Purchased Services	5,900	5,157		743
Supplies	9,650	600		9,050
Encumbrance	23	23		-
Interest on Refunds	10,036	-	10,036	-
<u>TOWN COLLECTOR</u>				
Salary	37,906	37,906		-
Purchased Services	6,850	5,559		1,291
Supplies	1,325	463		862

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
<u>LEGAL SERVICES</u>				
Legal	32,000	29,319		2,681
Tax Title Legal Fees	5,000	2,925		2,075
<u>MUNICIPAL INFO SERVICES</u>				
Purchased Services	39,391	31,628		7,763
Equipment	1,000	908		92
<u>TOWN CLERK</u>				
Salary	32,793	32,793		-
Record Keeping	90	-		90
Assistant	9,004	5,458		3,546
Purchased Services	1,950	777		1,173
Supplies	1,200	1,054		146
Other Expenses	700	-		700
Elections - Tellers	8,600	4,247		4,353
Elections - Purchased Services	8,900	5,363		3,537
Elections - Supplies	5,000	1,843		3,157
Registrars - Salary	1,650	1,650		-
Registrars - Clerk	250	250		-
Registrars - Census Taker	500	500		-
Registrars -Purchased Services	1,000	537		463
Registrars - Supplies	625	362		263
<u>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</u>				
Clerk	5,472	5,472		-
Purchased Services	1,210	1,210		-
Conferences	250	140		110
<u>PLANNING BOARD</u>				
Purchased Services	642	137		505
Supplies	139	-		139
<u>ZONING APPEALS BOARD</u>				
Purchased Services	1,324	204		1,120
Supplies	164	-		164
REGIONAL PLANNING ASSESSMENT	1,249	1,249		-
<u>WRTA</u>				
Compensation	10,900	5,222		5,678
Purchased Services	2,000	1,512		488
Supplies	-	-		-
HISTORICAL DIST PURCHASED SERV	200	-		200

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
<u>PUBLIC BUILDINGS</u>				
Purchased Services	17,340	15,163		2,177
Supplies	1,900	1,400		500
Insurance Premiums	106,850	106,799		51
Town Report Purchased Services	960	795		165
Town Clock Purchases Services	490	490		-
<u>POLICE DEPARTMENT</u>				
Chief Salary	85,265	85,265		-
Compensation	851,061	849,378		1,683
Purchased Services	45,418	43,544		1,874
Supplies	43,020	42,802		218
Dues	1,650	1,650		-
<u>FIRE DEPARTMENT</u>				
Chief Salary	39,497	39,497		-
Compensation	179,556	179,116		440
Purchased Services	42,187	42,187		-
Equipment	19,224	19,223		-
Prior Year Encumbrance	4,306	4,306		-
<u>EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDERS</u>				
Compensation	439,350	417,948	21,128	274
Purchased Services	40,786	38,264	2,000	522
Supplies	39,031	32,593	6,000	438
Prior Year Encumbrance	1,946	1,946		-
<u>INSPECTORS</u>				
Building - Compensation	22,797	22,799		-
Building - Local Inspector	1,875	1,650		225
Building - Purchased Services	250	-		250
Building - Supplies	25	-		25
Plumbing - Compensation	4,000	2,750		1,250
Wire - Compensation	4,591	4,591		-
Wire - Assistant Compensation	116	116		-
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX</u>				
Purchased Services	45,731	45,715		15
Expenses	504	504		-
Prior Year Encumbrance	5,863	5,863		-
<u>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</u>				
Compensation	6,315	6,315		-
Purchased Services	2,500	1,570		930
Supplies	500	124		376

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
<u>ANIMAL CONTROL</u>				
Compensation	6,610	6,610		-
Purchased Services	1,772	1,772		-
Supplies	148	148		-
<u>TREE WARDEN</u>				
Salary	1,275	1,275		-
Hourly Employee	624	160		464
Purchased Services	6,300	6,300		-
Supplies	50			50
Trees	1,000	1,000		-
<u>SCHOOLS</u>				
Wachusett Assessment	5,853,444	5,853,444		-
Vocational Assessment	260,771	257,849		2,922
<u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</u>				
Salary	57,137	57,137		-
Compensation	260,232	237,996		22,236
Purchased Services	123,150	123,150		-
Supplies	29,689	29,689		-
Equipment / Loader Lease	31,528	31,528		-
Road Surfacing	100,000	100,000		-
Snow & Ice - Overtime	45,188	45,715	(527)	-
Snow & Ice - Salt & Sand	130,000	154,473	(24,473)	-
Snow & Ice - Equipment	6,050	6,050		-
Street Lights Electricity	21,240	21,240		-
Cemetery - Salary	1,782	1,782		-
Cemetery - Compensating	4,526	2,117		2,409
Cemetery - Purchased Services	930	930		-
Cemetery - Supplies	979	979		-
<u>BOARD OF HEALTH</u>				
Waste Collections Contract	254,230	230,209	7,731	16,290
Salaries	371	371		-
Purchased Services	3,500	1,210		2,290
Supplies	188	168		20
Sanitation Engineer Compensation	11,225	11,225		-
Inspector of Animals - Salary	494	494		-
<u>COUNCIL ON AGING</u>				
Director Salary	22,729	22,616		113
Van Drivers	18,639	15,481		3,158
Outreach Coordinator	5,848	2,890		2,958
Purchased Services	3,800	3,274		526
Supplies	4,000	3,821		179
Other Expenses	1,190	1,053		137

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
<u>VETERANS AGENT</u>				
Salary	605	605		-
Purchased Services	100	-		100
Benefits	9,050	9,020		30
<u>LIBRARY</u>				
Director Salary	49,302	49,302		-
Compensation	34,545	31,122		3,423
Children's Librarian	36,590	35,809		781
Purchased Services	11,137	7,897		3,240
Supplies	37,984	37,756		228
Equipment	1,000	1,000		-
<u>RECREATION</u>				
Director Salary	14,833	14,833		-
Admin. Assistant	2,112	2,112		-
Purchased Services	8,800	8,796		4
Supplies	3,200	3,141		60
Prior Year Encumbrance	60	60		-
<u>HISTORICAL COMMITTEE</u>				
Purchased Services	300	300		-
Supplies	100	100		-
250th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION	286	-		286
<u>DEBT & INTEREST</u>				
Principal:				
School Reconstruction	330,000	330,000		-
School Windows	6,000	6,000		-
DPW /Doors & Windows	2,200	2,200		-
DPW Dump Truck	25,000	25,000		-
Public Safety Complex	366,800	366,800		-
PSC Green Repairs	67,000	67,000		-
Fire Breathing Apparatus	23,000	23,000		-
Ambulance & Dump Truck	61,000	61,000		-
Title V Betterment	7,698	7,698		-
Interest:				
School Reconstruction	45,936	45,936		-
School Windows	2,625	2,625		-
DPW /Doors & Windows	1,064	1,064		-
DPW Dump Truck	3,500	3,500		-
Public Safety Complex	234,663	234,663		-
PSC Green Repairs	14,800	14,800		-
Fire Breathing Apparatus	4,255	4,255		-
Ambulance & Dump Truck	7,381	7,381		-
Short Term Interest	2,773	2,773		-

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
<u>STATE ASSESSMENTS</u>				
Retired Teachers Health Insurance	221	221		-
Air Pollution	1,297	1,297		-
Registry Non Renewal	2,660	2,780		(120)
Regional Transit	11,889	11,889		-
<u>OTHER</u>				
Town Share Medicare	42,819	32,137		10,682
Employee Assistance Program	-			-
Health Insurance Premiums	495,960	495,024		936
Life Insurance	1,700	1,079		621
Insurance Deduct for Premiums	10,000	4,850		5,150
Retirement Assessment	325,495	325,495		-
Unemployment	-	-		-
<u>CENTRAL PURCHASING</u>				
Heat / Oil	43,800	29,125		14,675
Postage	7,000	5,303		1,697
Telephone	16,000	14,235		1,765
Electricity	74,990	74,933		57
Diesel	39,000	32,153		6,847
GENERAL FUND TOTALS	\$ 12,400,533	\$ 12,178,881	\$ 21,894	\$ 199,758

WATER ENTERPRISE FUND
Appropriation / Expenditure Report
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	Final Budget	Expenditures	Carried to Fiscal 2018	Closed to Surplus
Compensation	126,436	126,432		4
Expenses	638,401	598,478	21,303	18,620
Debt	118,761	118,761		-
Engineering Services	59,215	515		58,700
Maple St. Tank Project Exp	4,801	-	4,801	-
Prior Year Encumbrances	35,042	35,042		-
WATER FUND TOTALS	\$ 982,656	\$ 879,227	\$ 26,104	\$ 77,324

**Schedule of Outstanding Debt
As of June 30, 2017**

	Outstanding July 1, 2016	Issued	Retired	Outstanding June 30, 2017	Interest 2017
<u>LONG TERM - BONDS PAYABLE</u>					
School Renovations	990,000		330,000	660,000	45,936
Water Department	75,000		25,000	50,000	3,480
Title V Loan Program	38,338		7,698	30,640	
DPW Bldg Renovations	24,200		2,200	22,000	1,064
DPW Dump Truck	75,000		25,000	50,000	3,500
School Windows	60,000		6,000	54,000	2,625
Public Safety Complex	3,690,800		316,800	3,374,000	162,475
Public Safety Complex - USDA	1,650,000		50,000	1,600,000	72,188
Fire - Breathing Apparatuses	115,000		23,000	92,000	4,255
Center School Green Project	400,000		67,000	333,000	14,800
Ambulance & Dump Truck	366,000		61,000	305,000	7,381
Water Tank	1,365,198		55,418	1,309,780	25,421
TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT	\$ 8,849,536	\$ -	\$ 969,116	\$ 7,880,420	\$ 343,124



BOARD of ASSESSORS

BOARD OF ASSESSORS
ANNUAL REPORT FY17

After a state mandated certification, based on sales in 2015, the total taxable

Valuation as of January 1, 2016 for Fiscal Year 2017 was set at \$487,113,252.

New construction, additions, and alterations thru June 30, 2016 added \$7,273,585.

Real Estate and Personal Property abatements reduced the total valuation \$230,200.

Other adjustments lowered the total valuation \$1,030,400.

The Board received 14 abatement requests of which 7 were approved and processed.

The Assessor's office is open Monday & Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm and Friday from 8:00 to 1:00. The Board of Assessor's meets to review abatement requests and review any pertinent information.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen M Stanley, MAA, Administrative Assessor

<u>Board of Assessors</u>				
<u>Table 1</u>				
<u>Tax Rate Recapitulation Summary</u>				
<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	
Appropriations to be Raised	\$11,912,531.00	\$11,409,977.00	\$11,063,153.00	
Appropriations from Available Funds	\$572,416.00	\$615,713.00	\$510,128.00	
Offset Items	\$923,598.00	\$957,890.00	\$870,145.00	
Retirement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
State & County Assessments	\$36,195.00	\$45,286.00	\$58,300.00	
Tax Title	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Overlay	\$103,087.21	\$51,269.14	\$86,276.25	
Cherry Sheet Offset, other Deficits	\$6,694.00	\$51,796.28	\$22,634.03	
Final Court Judgments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Debt & Interest Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Gross Amount to be Raised	\$13,554,521.21	\$13,131,931.42	\$12,610,636.28	
<u>Estimated Receipts</u>				
Local Aid and Agency Fund	\$982,140.00	\$963,524.00	\$945,307.00	
Motor Vehicle Excise	\$665,601.35	\$643,577.31	\$638,942.12	
Water Department	\$923,598.00	\$957,890.00	\$870,145.00	
Other Local Receipts	\$478,526.65	\$511,327.69	\$479,462.88	
Available Funds - School Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Available Funds - Free Cash	\$114,318.00	\$290,173.00	\$302,313.00	
Available Funds - Other	\$458,098.00	\$325,540.00	\$207,815.00	
Total Estimated Receipts	\$3,622,282.00	\$3,692,032.00	\$3,443,985.00	
Net Amount to be Raised	\$9,932,239.21	\$9,439,899.42	\$9,166,651.28	
Maximum Allowable Levy	\$9,938,319.00	\$9,443,723.00	\$9,168,114.00	
<u>Valuations</u>				
Real Estate	\$477,804,637.00	\$449,987,075.00	\$432,438,725.00	
Personal Property	\$9,308,615.00	\$8,483,028.00	\$8,477,642.00	
Total Taxable Property	\$487,113,252.00	\$458,470,103.00	\$440,916,367.00	
<u>Tax Rates</u>				
Residential	\$20.39	\$20.59	\$20.79	
Open Space	\$20.39	\$20.59	\$20.79	
Commercial, Industrial, Personal Prop	\$20.39	\$20.59	\$20.79	

Board of Assessors

Table II

Exemptions, Abatements, Motor Vehicle Excise

	<u>FY2017</u>		<u>FY2016</u>		<u>FY2015</u>	
<u>Exemptions</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Clause 18: Age, Infirmary, Poverty	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Clause 17D: Widows	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Clause 22A	1	\$750.00	1	\$750.00	1	\$750.00
Clause 22E	5	\$5,000.00	1	\$1,000.00	1	\$1,000.00
Clause 22: Veterans	17	\$6,800.00	22	\$8,800.00	17	\$6,800.00
Clause 37: Blind	1	\$437.50	3	\$1,312.50	3	\$1,312.50
Clause 41: Elderly	6	\$4,500.00	9	\$6,750.00	8	\$6,000.00
Clause 41A: Deferred Taxes	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Clause 42:	1	\$7,687.03	1	\$7,490.64	1	\$7,355.50
Totals	31	\$25,174.53	37	\$26,103.14	31	\$23,218.00
<u>Abatements</u>						
Real Estate	7	\$4,693.78	7	\$4,739.82	3	\$3,806.66
Personal Property	0	\$0.00	1	\$154.16	0	\$0.00
Farm Animal Excise	4	\$468.00	4	\$508.00	4	\$552.15
Motor Vehicle Excise	200	\$22,434.21	203	\$22,716.00	179	\$17,000.94
Total	211	\$27,595.99	215	\$28,117.98	186	\$21,359.75
<u>Motor Vehicle Excise Bills</u>						
Bills Processed	5238	\$665,601.35	5328	\$643,577.31	5110	\$638,942.12
Dollar Value Less Abatements		\$643,167.14		\$620,861.00		\$621,941.18

<u>Board of Assessors</u>				
<u>Table III</u>				
<u>Property Classification</u>				
	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>	<u>%</u>
Residential	\$462,411,272.00	\$433,626,448.00	\$28,784,824.00	6.2%
Commercial	\$10,085,465.00	\$10,701,327.00	-\$615,862.00	-6.1%
Industrial	\$5,307,900.00	\$5,659,300.00	-\$351,400.00	-6.6%
Personal Property	\$9,308,615.00	\$8,483,028.00	\$825,587.00	8.9%
Total Taxable Prope	\$487,113,252.00	\$458,470,103.00	\$28,643,149.00	6.2%
Exempt Property	\$74,176,800.00	\$69,091,811.00	\$5,084,989.00	6.9%
Total Valuation	\$561,290,052.00	\$527,561,914.00	\$33,728,138.00	6.4%



TOWN COLLECTOR

REPORT OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR

Prior Years Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$11,294.84	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$11,294.84
Total	\$11,294.84	\$11,294.84

2003 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$3,884.68	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$3,884.68
Total	\$3,884.68	\$3,884.68

2004 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$2,574.35	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$2,574.35
Total	\$2,574.35	\$2,574.35

2005 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,878.75	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,878.75
Total	\$1,878.75	\$1,878.75

2006 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$747.50	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$747.50
Total	\$747.50	\$747.50

2007 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,451.36	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,451.36
Total	\$1,451.36	\$1,451.36

2008 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,648.35	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,648.35
Total	\$1,648.35	\$1,648.35

2009 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,488.86	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,488.86
Total	\$1,488.86	\$1,488.86

2010 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,293.65	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,293.65
Total	\$1,293.65	\$1,293.65

2011 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$4,098.96	
Collected		\$689.38
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$3,409.58
Total	\$4,098.96	\$4,098.96

2012 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$3,473.55	
Collected		\$54.90
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$3,418.65
Total	\$3,473.55	\$3,473.55

2013 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,341.05	
Collected		\$808.29
Refunded	\$144.12	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$676.88
Total	\$1,485.17	\$1,485.17

2014 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$4,562.90	
Refunded	\$146.88	
Collected		\$1,372.50
Abated		\$146.88
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$3,190.40
Total	\$4,709.78	\$4,709.78

2015 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$7,512.20	
Refunded	\$675.21	
Collected		\$3,613.55
Abated		\$707.40
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$3,866.46
Total	\$8,187.41	\$8,187.41

2016 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$50,908.89	
Committed	\$70,670.94	
Refunded	\$7,551.26	
Collected		\$114,443.87
Abated		\$8,080.52
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$6,606.70
Total	\$129,131.09	\$129,131.09

2017 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Committed	\$645,482.75	
Refunded	\$5,960.47	
Collected		\$588,169.46
Abated		\$11,648.99
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$51,624.77
Total	\$651,443.22	\$651,443.22

2017 Fiscal Farm Animal Excise Tax

Committed	\$468.00	
Collected		\$430.50
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$37.50
Total	\$468.00	\$468.00

2016 Fiscal Farm Animal Excise Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$34.00	
Adjusted		\$1.50
Collected		\$32.50
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$0.00
Total	\$34.00	\$34.00

2017 Fiscal in Lieu of Taxes

Committed	\$33,539.34	
Collected		\$22,681.67
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$10,857.67
Total	\$33,539.34	\$33,539.34

* Please note that there is no outstanding 2009 thru 2012 Fiscal Personal Property Tax

2017 Fiscal Personal Property Tax

Committed	\$189,802.68	
Collected		\$189,271.47
Refunded	\$60.64	
Positive Adjustment	\$6.52	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$598.37
Total	\$189,869.84	\$189,869.84

2016 Fiscal Personal Property Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$667.94	
Collected		\$621.90
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$46.04
Total	\$667.94	\$667.94

2015 Fiscal Personal Property Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$237.69	
Collected		\$207.91
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$29.78
Total	\$237.69	\$237.69

2014 Fiscal Personal Property Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$36.18	
Collected		\$0.00
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$36.18
Total	\$36.18	\$36.18

2013 Fiscal Personal Property Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$53.66	
Collected		\$0.00
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$53.66
Total	\$53.66	\$53.66

2015 Fiscal Real Estate Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$4,297.08	
Collected		\$0.00
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$4,297.08
Total	\$4,297.08	\$4,297.08

2016 Fiscal Real Estate Tax

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$62,673.92	
Collected		\$38,271.25
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$24,402.67
Total	\$62,673.92	\$62,673.92

2017 Fiscal Real Estate Tax

Committed	\$9,757,556.93	
Refunded	\$27,282.98	
Transferred to Tax Title		\$29,634.35
Collected		\$9,674,026.55
Abated		\$31,252.80
Positive Adjustment	\$8.89	
Negative Adjustment		\$51.09
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$49,884.01
Total	\$9,784,848.80	\$9,784,848.80

Tax Title - Various Years

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$114,320.35	
Transferred into Tax Title	\$32,581.59	
Transferred into Tax Possessions		\$32,330.16
Collected		\$23,538.80
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$91,032.98
Total	\$146,901.94	\$146,901.94

Tax Possessions

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$101,587.37	
Positive Adjustment	\$82,152.38	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$183,739.35
Total	\$183,739.75	\$183,739.35

2016 Fiscal Light Liens

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$4,386.62	
Collected		\$2,579.03
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,807.59
Total	\$4,386.62	\$4,386.62

2017 Fiscal Light Liens

Committed	\$4,022.91	
Collected		\$2,579.03
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,807.59
Total	\$4,022.91	\$4,386.62

2016 Fiscal Trash Liens

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$370.00	
Collected		\$140.06
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$229.94
Total	\$370.00	\$370.00

2017 Fiscal Trash Liens

Committed	\$3,545.50	
Collected		\$3,162.13
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$383.37
Total	\$3,545.50	\$3,545.50

2016 Fiscal Water Liens

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$1,302.53	
Collected		\$515.41
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$787.12
Total	\$1,302.53	\$1,302.53

2017 Fiscal Water Liens

Committed	\$15,199.89	
Collected		\$13,308.16
Transferred to Tax Title		\$486.26
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$1,405.47
Total	\$15,199.89	\$15,199.89

2017 Fiscal Title V

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$60,701.11	
Collected		\$2,245.35
Committed	\$21,005.00	
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$79,460.76
Total	\$81,706.11	\$81,706.11

2017 Fiscal Title V Betterments

Outstanding July 1, 2016	\$9,095.50	
Collected		\$2,088.50
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$7,007.00
Total	\$9,095.50	\$9,095.50

2017 Income and Expense Liens

Committed	\$250.00	
Collected		\$250.00
Outstanding June 30, 2017		\$0.00
Total	\$250.00	\$250.00

2017 Fiscal Miscellaneous Receipts

Interest Received on all Taxes	\$16,588.65
Certificates of Municipal Lien	\$5,775.00
Lien Fees	\$2,468.20
Demand & Warrant Fees	\$22,350.00
Return Check Fees	\$63.96
Motor Vehicle Flagging Fees	\$2,140.00
Dog Fines	\$0.00
Town Operating Interest	\$5,269.91
Betterment Interest	\$454.78
Title V and Interest	\$4,532.61
Agency Interest	\$37.72
Cultural Council Interest	\$5.27
Total	\$59,686.10

Water Department Receipts

Readings	\$853,833.38
Installation & Repairs	\$35,483.78
Interest Received on Water Receipts	\$401.00
Water Lien Receipts & Fees	\$13,823.57
Water Late Charges Received	\$5,121.94
Other Local Receipts	\$0.00
Total	\$908,663.67

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday	9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday	9:00am - 1:00pm

Respectfully submitted by
Deirdre L. Malone, Collector



TOWN PAYROLL

TOWN OF PAXTON PAYROLL

TOWN HALL	
Dennis Benoit	9,182.00
Peter Bogren	1,958.00
Thomas Carroll	247.34
Kateri Clute	764.34
Donna Couture	30,251.62
Wayne Curran	14,031.25
Denis Leo	5,221.55
Donna Graf-Parsons	43,787.50
Dennis Harney	4,290.00
Judy Hatstat	247.34
Doris Huard	1,528.67
Jeffrey Kent	907.50
Sheryl Lombardi	27,228.74
Deirdre Malone	57,204.04
John Malone	1,606.00
Mia McDonald	8,190.00
Adam Menard	5,040.97
David Parent	247.32
Jean Parent	988.00
Julia Pingitore	1,606.00
Kim Peloquin	24,363.14
Carol Riches	86,176.56
James Robert	1,275.00
Michael Savasta	18,400.00
Joanne Savignac	1,528.67
John Slabich	232.00
Kathleen Stanley	41,764.00
Susan Stone	35,044.21
Richard Travers	2,050.00
Richard Trifero	22,797.00
B. Peter Warren	6,610.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Rodolfo Acuna	96.18
Corey Anderson	2,735.88
Brandon Andexler	2,251.20
Nicholas Andexler	16,244.78

Michael Benoit	12,056.96
Lionel Berthiaume	769.44
Joseph Bialecki	2,884.35
James Carleton	75,048.76
Jay Conte	48,360.62
Peter Conte	7,900.40
Jonathan Cooper	1,236.60
Bailey Correia	2,871.66
Tyler Crabb	1,387.74
Albert Deshler	196.88
Richard Doughty	1,752.62
Theodore Duchesney	1,016.76
Nolan Flynn	2,831.09
Richard Gaffney	5,650.97
Cynthia Gaudet	64,719.74
Kenneth Grensavitch	46.32
Jonathan Hanson	28,288.32
James Hansson	3,952.43
Ryan Hobbs	267.12
Kevin Kelly	53,659.74
Brian Kellelea	1,456.44
Christopher Koretski	735.39
Richard McGinn	92,008.02
Shawn Mead	56,391.56
Jeffrey Olson	57,383.24
Jeremy Parkinson	1,771.92
Michael Pingitore	83,652.96
Jason Putnam	4,039.56
Kevin Quinn	6,062.10
Jerrod Ravid	2,280.84
Gary Richards	6,969.95
Thomas Savage, Jr.	13,305.04
James Scheuritzel	3,880.82
James Smith	1,071.72
Meghan Stevens	3,582.87
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	
Brennen Cheney	30,965.89
Roni Huard	55,225.99
Mark Leveille	54,187.38

Matthew Paldino	8,090.00
Philip McPherson	36,971.91
Michael Putnam	76,546.68
Michael Putnam Jr	737.50
Gary Richards	55,381.75
Christopher Ross	55,858.66
Travis Thibault	93,355.50
LIBRARY	
Deborah Bailey	51,183.36
Barbara Braley	6,280.69
Hallie Brown	1,756.00
Arnold Childs, Jr.	4,925.25
Kim Cooke	37,204.18
Danielle Martin	792.22
Emily Orciuch	1,323.50
Larry Spongberg	324.00
Susan Wheeler	16,684.09
RECREATION DEPARTMENT	
Kathy Card	18,284.64
Lee Ann Card	1,445.00
Juvan Coetzee	430.00
Lindsey Giorgi	880.00
Alyssa Johansson	140.00
Erica Johnsson	969.20
Paul Johnson	1,539.00
Craig Larson	2,475.00
Ashley LeClair	432.00
Anthony Riopel	1,079.50
Ashley Roy	604.00
Megan Smith	692.00
Cameron Sullivan	854.25
Jordan Turgeon	668.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	
Paul Belsito	6,054.76
John Crowley	9,954.66
Cynthia Love	28,562.84
Dolores Rauschl	2,890.00
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER	
Ashley Anderson	48,288.65

Laura Cassady	25,636.16
Richard Fairbanks	47,017.00
Eric Kanavos	5,927.32
Ronald Kikonyogo	4,460.68
Tanya Martin	10,710.40
Jacob Moisio	13,983.51
Timothy Robinson	1,177.59
Mitchell Rogers	44,763.89
David Rose	4,037.28
Jason Sherblom	429.60
Jeffrey Tasca	9,264.76
Samantha Trotto	2,105.04
Lamar Watkins	2,560.00
LIGHT DEPARTMENT	
John Ahern	600.00
Susan Burdett	16,740.76
John Crowley	800.00
Cheryl Kerxhalli	64,337.66
David Laflamme	45,131.34
Jason Lavallee	109,591.20
Naomi Quinn	40,958.88
David Renzetti	108,987.29
Tara Rondeau	74,489.70
Matthew Stone	92,012.47
Emerson Wheeler	600.00
Timothy White	99,492.25
POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Guy Bibeau	87,506.44
Joseph Coggans	83,184.62
Robert Desrosiers	131,214.11
Christopher Duff	64,150.57
Kenneth Johnson	92,817.42
David Keller	65,048.48
William Lang	72,423.81
Matthew Morin	84,835.87
Diony Nunez	64,624.62
Eva Ryan	53,250.63
Mark Savasta	147,127.74
Jason Silvestri	103,288.41

Douglas Tripp	66,426.89
Forrest Thorpe III	100,152.22
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Mark Belliveau	1,991.01
Corey Buzzell	4,064.36
Paul Ciance	11,715.71
Shawn Davis	48,663.36
John Jovan	9,447.06
Steven Legere	4,932.62
Kevin Mailman	3,892.20
Michael Tremblay	785.93
David Warren	48,737.96

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Website: townofpaxton.net

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

DIAL "911"

PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX: 508-755-1104

located at 576 Pleasant Street

Open 24 hours to provide information and assistance to the residents of Paxton.

TOWN HALL, 697 Pleasant Street: hours: Monday-Thursday 9am- 4pm, Friday 9am – 1pm. Hours vary by department so check website for specific department hours.

Town Administrator	Carol L. Riches	Town Hall	508-754-7638 Ext. 20
Board of Selectmen	Peter Bogren, Jr., Chair Donna Graf-Parsons	Board meets every other Monday – Call in advance for meeting dates	508-754-7638 Ext 10
Town Services Coordinator	Sheryl Lombardi	Board of Appeal, Planning Board and Board of Health	508-753-2803 Ext. 11
Board of Appeals	Roberta Brien, Chair	Board meets on an "As needed" basis	
Board of Health	David Parent, Chair	Board meets the first Monday of each month at 7pm	
Planning Board	Neil Bagdis, Chair	Board meets the second Monday or Tuesday of each month at 7pm	
Building Commissioner	Richard Trifero		Home: 508-756-5622
Sanitary Inspector	Wayne Curran		Home: 508-757-4180
Gas & Plumbing Inspector	Dennis Harney	Call direct for an inspection	Home: 774-261-8084
Wire Inspector	John Reece	Call direct for an inspection	Home: 774-535-1200
Fire Inspector	Michael Pingitore	Call for Inspection	508-793-3170
Town Accountant	Donna Couture		508-754-7638 Ext. 16
Assessors	Doris Huard, Chair Kathleen Stanley, Administrative Assessor	Hours: Monday, Thursday and Friday 8 a.m.-4pm	508-754-7638 Ext. 16
Town Clerk	Susan Stone	Town Hall	508-799-7347 Ext. 13
Treasurer/Collector	Kim Peloquin	Town Hall	508-799-7347 Ext. 15
Water Commissioners	John Malone, Chair	Board meets third Tuesday of each month at 7pm	
Municipal Light Department	Tara Rondeau, Manager Emerson Wheeler, Chair	Office: 578 Pleasant Street. Board meets second Tuesday of each month.	508-756-9508
Police Department	Robert Desrosiers, Police Chief	Office: 576 Pleasant Street (Business Only)	508-793-3131
Dog/ Animal Control Officer	B. Peter Warren	Contact Dispatch	508-755-1104
Recreation Commission	Robin Tasca , Chair	Commission meet the third Monday of each month	
Council on Aging	Curtis Hammar, Chair Cindy Love, Director	Office: 17 West Street Board meets the first Tuesday of each month.	508-756-2833
Conservation Commission		Board meets the second Thursday of each month	508-735-0035
Historical Commission	Anita Fenton	Board meets the third Thursday of each month	
Veteran's Agent	Jeffrey Kent		
Richards Memorial Library	Debbie Bailey, Librarian Patricia Dawson, Trustee Chair	Trustees meet the first Tuesday of each month Check website for hours	508-754-0793